

News Summary

GENERAL

Lynch mints at UN

Violence erupted in Londonderry and Army experts fight to defuse a "sophisticated" bomb in Belfast last night as Irish Premier Lynch urged he might take the Ulster nation to the UN.

Meanwhile, at Stormont, Home Affairs Minister John Taylor said "shadow" Home Secretary Ian Gifford explained his role in the incident at Belfast's news conference involving Sinn Féin leader Tomás MacGiolla.

Business

Prime rates cut 1/4%

PRIME RATE cuts of 1/4 per cent by U.S. banks were followed by a 12-point fall on Wall Street.

Laughing stock

MacGiolla was back in the public eye yesterday, without being questioned, as intended, by the police. He was seen in Paisley told Stormont the incident had made "a laughing stock" of security forces.

The Belfast bomb incident involved a gelignite device found in a bar of Belfast's new Europa Hotel. Guests were evacuated, and the bomb was defused after four hours and it was said it might be necessary to lift it off in what the Army described as "a controlled explosion."

About 130 youths went on the rampage in the Bogside, hurling bombs at troops and putting up barricades. Two army posts were under fire.

Irresponsible

Meanwhile, Ulster MP Robert McEneaney-Clark, the former emir's brother, condemned as "irresponsible" the call issued by Senator Kennedy in the U.S. for the immediate withdrawal of British troops and establishment of a united Ireland.

He was on a speech, Page 3, see reports Pages 3, 12.

Peace Prize or Brandt

West German Chancellor Willy Brandt was awarded the 1971 Nobel Peace Prize for his "concrete initiatives" in relaxing tensions between East and West.

Spy to be shot

Iraqi air force Lt. Col. Abdul-Jabbar has been sentenced to death by firing squad for spying for Britain. Baghdad radio reported. He was said to have given information about Soviet jets in Iraq.

No to U.S. plan

France and Sweden rejected the U.S. proposal in the UN for a "four big powers" for nuclear representation in the UN for China and Taiwan. Their delegates insisted that the Chinese Republic should be the sole representative of China.

Rhodesia visit

A three-man Foreign Office delegation, led by Sir Philip Hain, left London last night for Salisbury. Rhodesians are expected to give a "friendly" reception for a visit better than ever. Page 14.

Lazy jibe death

A man of 60 was told at a hospital exchange he was "lazy" when he took a car there on being made redundant after 25 years in the job and later he threw himself under a lorry because of a remark he had played on his wife. The man's son said at the inquest, "My father was a very busy man. He was a very busy man."

Refugee

Portugal Economic Affairs Minister, Lourenço Mendes, is to visit London next week for the annual EEC debate.

He was valued at £16,000 in a hijacked in Poplar, London.

His wife left an official reception on the Royal yacht at Limerick, Ireland, when she was in the city because of a visit to the city.

Mr. Mendes is to pay a "friendly" visit to Cuba on Tuesday.

US Bulwark has reached Malta with 900 men of the 41st Marine Amphibious Brigade to take over from a departing Devon and Dorset unit.

A North American hawk-billed cuckoo, blown off course by gales, has been seen in the East of England.

Jobless: CBI urges big rise in spending

BY HAROLD BOLTER, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Confederation of British Industry yesterday pressed the Government to take swift action to encourage local authorities, the nationalised industries and private companies to accelerate the expenditure of many millions of pounds over the next few months in an attempt to bring down high unemployment rates in the U.K.

There were strong indications last night that the Government is prepared to look favourably on several of the CBI's proposals. In particular, the State-owned industries—led by steel, gas, electricity and coal, with a total approved investment of nearly £1,000m. for the current year—are likely to come under severe pressure to bring forward as much investment as possible quickly.



Sir John Partridge

Last night the DTI made it clear that, although it had no evidence to suggest that expansion by existing companies was being held up because other concerns moving into their area received operational grants, it was prepared to look at any evidence the CBI could produce.

In the training field the Confederation has asked the Government to consider reimbursing private and public industry for the cost of using facilities to take in more trainees.

Mr. Adamson pointed out that whenever there was an improvement in economic growth many industries found themselves short of skilled and semi-skilled labour and that this was a good time to prepare for the future.

The Confederation also suggested that more encouragement should be given by the Government to training in the distribution trades, as well as in manufacturing, which usually tended to receive most attention.

Ministers were also asked to consider making investment allowances over and above 100 per cent available for plant and machinery expenditure in the development areas, to ease the transition from development grants to a system based on free depreciation and tax allowances.

Finally, the CBI has asked the Government to allow representatives of industry to take part in discussions over the formulation of regional policy.

Mr. Adamson said the CBI was not impressed with the success of regional policy over the last two years and felt that there could be considerable value in a new dialogue between Government and industry in this field.

Roadbuilding

The CBI's other proposals fall into four main categories:

- 1—It wants the whole cost of clearing areas to be paid for by the Government, for roadbuilding and house renovation schemes to be speeded up by improved incentives.
- 2—It wants companies already engaged in special development areas to be given grants covering up to 30 per cent of the labour costs incurred in expanded production schemes, as well as new concerns.
- 3—It wants the Government to pay private and nationalised industry undertakings to use their training facilities to take in more school-leavers.
- 4—It wants industry to have a bigger say in the formulation of regional policies.

In particular, the CBI feels that roadbuilding and property renovation programmes—both labour-intensive—could be accelerated and that the clearance of derelict areas could be further advanced. Grants of up to 85 per cent are already available for work to clear dereliction, but the CBI feels this could be increased to 100 per cent for schemes put in hand immediately.

The CBI would also like to see the Government extend operational grants, which are available to companies moving into a special development area, to concerns already there.

At the moment newcomers receive grants covering 30 per cent of the wages and salaries of most of their workers for a period of three years while they settle in.

Currency talks make progress

BY ROBERT MAUTHNER

SENIOR MONETARY officials and central bankers of the world's principal industrialised nations met in the so-called Group of Ten—have made some progress in their meeting here today in preparing the ground for a political solution of the world currency crisis.

Although neither yesterday's meeting of the OECD Working Party 3, which deals with balance of payments problems, nor today's discussions could be described as negotiations, they did lead to a useful clarification of views.

Discussions on a swing in the U.S. balance of some \$7,000,000, a figure halfway between the turnaround demanded by the U.S. and that considered acceptable by the other countries.

If this figure is accepted by all and sundry—and there is as yet no indication this is in fact the case—experts have calculated that the currency realignments required to achieve it would result in an effective dollar devaluation of 10 per cent.

Signor Ossola said the deputies had also discussed the measures which should be taken during a transitional period before an agreement was reached on a reform of the international monetary system.

During this period, he said, it was not necessary to re-establish fixed parities. Instead, so-called "pivot" rates could be set by each country individually, with fluctuation margins of 3 per cent, either side of the determined rate.

During the discussions on the

Consensus

According to Signor Rinaldo Ossola, deputy governor of the Bank of Italy and chairman of the Group of Ten deputies, there is now a consensus that an "adequate realignment" of exchange rates must take place in due time, and a first tentative step was taken today to try and translate this into practical terms.

Signor Ossola deliberately refrained from giving any details and confined himself to the

case—experts have calculated that the currency realignments required to achieve it would result in an effective dollar devaluation of 10 per cent.

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During the discussions on the

Panel ruling means Allied-THF share deals avoid disclosure

BY SANDY McLACHLAN

THE Take-over Panel has ruled that the approach by Allied Breweries to Trust Houses Forte does not constitute a "take-over situation" within the meaning of the Takeover Code. This implies that deals in the shares of the two companies by associates do not have to be disclosed the next day, as they would have to be in a bid situation.

The big buyer of THF shares on Tuesday does not therefore have to disclose his holdings at this stage.

Although it was Rothschild's advisers to Allied Breweries, who secured the Panel ruling that deals would not require disclosure, it is believed that Allied bought shares in the market on Tuesday. Deals in THF yesterday were much quieter than in Monday's hectic trading, and there was no sign of substantial buying from any one source. The situation now appears to have

calmed down in front of Friday's full Board meeting at THF. The shares opened weaker yesterday morning, and went as low as 163 1/2 in later trading. There was a small recovery to 164 1/2 by the close, for a net fall of 13 1/2.

No new ground

Sir Charles Forte, the THF director chairman and managing director, together with family trusts and associates, is believed to control 18.20 per cent. of the equity.

The decision by the panel does not in fact break new ground, although it is important in the THF context. Allied Breweries made its announcement of an approach to the THF Board at the earliest possible stage, and so far it has no access to information beyond that which is publicly available.

Basically the situation has not gone beyond the point of "talks about talks" so that there is no

reason why free market dealings should be fettered.

Anyway, the existence of the THF Council of Trustees makes the situation unique, though this would not enter into the Panel's considerations. The trustees do not want to interfere with a takeover situation, which they feel (within the limitations of the trust deeds), is largely a matter for shareholders. But that does not dispute their undoubted ability to block any unwelcome move with their controlling vote in the affairs of the company.

Such a move could only be challenged if the rise in the THF share price since the Allied approach was first announced, and the large cash sum involved in building up a meaningful stake, makes any market operation by outsiders a risky proposition. And even Allied and its advisers might not like to give the impression of trying to force the issue.

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During the discussions on the

Labour doubts about Jenkins' party post

BY JOHN BOURNE, LOBBY EDITOR

SPECULATION among Labour MPs about whether Mr. Roy Jenkins intends to remain as Deputy Leader of the Labour Party during the six-day debate on the Common Market in next Thursday. It is accepted, of course, that Mr. Jenkins and the "shadow" Cabinet was officially informed that a three-line Whip would be imposed against the EEC entry terms.

Mr. Jenkins has made it clear to his friends that he intends in any case to run again for the Deputy Leadership in the annual Parliamentary Labour Party elections next month. But all signs are that he will not make final decisions about his personal position in the party until the question of the Whip has been settled.

Potential abstainers are expected to rise rapidly, and the hard core of 50 or more pro-Marketters is certain to be diminished to some extent during the next few days. However, no one doubts that whatever the final balance between abstentions and votes for entry on the Labour side, there will still be a large Parliamentary majority for accepting.

Mr. Willie Hamilton, a former vice-chairman of the PLP, last night tabled an amendment to the Government's Common Market motion in the hope that it would be called by the Speaker. The Speaker has promised to consider doing so.

Main choice

This point has now arrived. Mr. Bob Mellish, the Chief Whip, told the "shadow" Cabinet last night that he intended to report in the later editions of yesterday's Financial Times—to impose a three-line Whip at the end of the Common Market debate next Thursday night.

There was no discussion on his statement, although Mr. Jenkins and other pro-Marketters were present at the meeting. The Labour leaders spent most of their time discussing Press leaks of what was said at their two meetings the day before.

The main choice facing Mr. Jenkins is whether to stand down temporarily from the Deputy Leadership and run again for the post next month, or to sit tight and leave it to his fellow-Labour MPs to vote for or against him in the annual election. In the last few weeks the impression has been growing that he will probably choose the second course. But in either event he will be opposed in the election by other candidates, including probably Mr. Michael Foot and Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn.

Elections

If Mr. Jenkins decides not to resign for the period of the Common Market debate, this will probably be accepted as the sensible course by a significant body of Labour MPs. But in other sections of the party, mainly on the Left Wing, there will be an outcry.

To-night the PLP, at its regular weekly meeting, will be told the timetable for nominations and elections for the positions of Deputy Leader, Chief Whip, party chairman and the 12 other "shadow" Cabinet seats. Members of the Left-wing Tribune Group were saying last night that they intended to ask at this meeting whether those office-holders who proposed to vote against the party Whip were going to resign. If they did not resign, said one Left-wing leader, a proposal

For the rest of the debate the principal speakers are: Tomorrow—Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary for the Social Services; Mr. Fred Peart for the Opposition; Monday—Mr. Geoffrey Rippon, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Mr. Robert Carr, Secretary for Employment; Mr. Michael Foot and Mr. Douglas Jay, Tuesday—Mr. Gordon Campbell, Secretary for Scotland, and Mr. Peter Thomas, Secretary for Wales; Mr. Willie Ross and Mr. George Thomas; Wednesday—Mr. Anthony Barber, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. John Davies, Secretary for Trade and Industry; Mr. Wedgwood Benn and Mrs. Barbara Castle; Thursday—Mr. Reginald Maudling, the Home Secretary, and the Prime Minister; Mr. Harold Wilson and Mr. James Callaghan.

See Men and Matters, Page 22

STOCK PRICE CHANGES

Prices in pence unless otherwise indicated

Admiral	125 + 7	Woolston	125 + 7
Anglo	125 + 7	Woolston	125 + 7
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American News

Ten held in Trinidad emergency

by Our Own Correspondent

PORT OF SPAIN, Oct. 20. PEOPLE have been detained under emergency powers assumed by the Trinidad and Tobago Government. One of them is the leader of last year's "Black Power" uprising, George Granger, and another the president general of the largest union in the Commonwealth Caribbean, George Beckles of the oilfield workers. They were picked up by police yesterday after the Governor-General Sir Solomon Hochoy signed the emergency declaration on the advice of the Prime Minister, Eric Williams. The general public did not know of the emergency, which was last for only one month, until being extended by parliament until Prime Minister Williams announced it on television and radio broadcast last night.

The present state of emergency is the second to be declared in this country within months. There was a state of emergency for seven months last year from April to November following several weeks of racial demonstrations, arson and social unrest.

Mr. Williams said the current emergency has been declared because of a serious threat to order, economic stability and the peace of mind and security of job tenure of the "citizen" as exemplified by recent industrial tension, racial abuse, violence, strikes, slowdowns and union jurisdictional disputes.

The unrest culminated last week when workers on a \$32m sulphurisation plant construction site in the oilfield assaulted an American manager and killed his office.

Disenchantment with mutual funds continues

by Jurek Martin

NEW YORK, Oct. 20. FOR THE FOURTH time in the five months, U.S. investors have cashed in considerable more mutual fund shares than they bought. The gap between redemptions and new sales was, in fact, the largest on record in September.

These statistics, issued by the Investment Company Institute, covering about 90 per cent of all U.S. mutual funds (unit trusts), are significant because they are generally considered a reliable yardstick of the degree of interest on the part of the average investor in the equity market. The results of the last three months point clearly to a marked level of disenchantment in September, redemptions of mutual fund shares amounted to \$9.9m, while new sales only to \$304.5m. The \$166.4m margin is the largest since the institute began tabulating the industry and the value of new sales is the lowest since May 1969, when the stock market was in the depths of the bear market.

Since May, sales of mutual funds have exceeded redemptions only once—in August, when there was a brief rally in the stock market.

Nixon's economic moves.

Mexican move to expand

by Our Own Correspondent

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 20. MEXICAN Finance Minister Sergio Margain has said that the Mexican economy is now over and that government expenditure will rise by 20 per cent in 1972.

Mr. Margain also announced a 25 per cent increase in the import tax on silver was to be levied because of the continuing fall in world silver prices.

Mexico is one of the largest exporters of silver in the world. Government spending, which fell by about 10 per cent last year, will next year include massive low-cost housing projects in Mexico City.

Kennedy call to unite Ireland

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.

Senators Edward Kennedy and Abraham Ribicoff called today for an immediate withdrawal of British troops from Northern Ireland and establishment of a united Ireland. Senator Kennedy's announcement said a similar resolution was being introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Hugh Roy, a Democrat for New York.

"We believe that the resolution states the only realistic way to end the killing in Northern Ireland, and to bring peace to a land that has given much to American life, that does so much to enrich the life of our own nation," Senator Kennedy said.

"The conscience of America cannot keep silent when men and women of Britain are dying," he said. "Britain has lost its way, and innocent people of Northern Ireland are the ones who now must suffer."

"The time has come for the removal of every faith and political persuasion to speak out," he said. "We owe ourselves and our sacred heritage no less."

He warned that "without a firm commitment to troop withdrawal and unification, there can be no peace in Northern Ireland. The killing will go on, and the inevitable mounting violence will continue."

He said Northern Ireland "is becoming Britain's Vietnam. Indeed it is fair to say that Britain stands toward peace in Northern Ireland today where America stood in South-East Asia in the early 1960s."

Nixon seeks more powers on international air fares

BY GUY DE JONQUIERES

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.

THE NIXON Administration is seeking an enlargement of Government authority to regulate international air fares, but it is divided over how far any new authority should extend.

The most outspoken advocate of an enlarged Government role is the Civil Aeronautics Board, which urged Congress yesterday to give its agency the power to unilaterally determine international fares.

A much more cautious position is being taken by the State Department, however. Mr. Bert Rein, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, opposed Mr. Brown's proposal on the grounds that other Governments would resist fares "dictated" by the U.S. Mr. Rein said the favoured international fare would result in only so as to permit it to restrain air lines from trying to damage competitors by charging rates that were either excessively high or excessively low.

The responsibility for setting fares should lie with the airlines in the first instance, he indicated, adding: "Every international route involves another sovereign nation and it is unrealistic to believe that unilateral U.S. regulation of rates will be accepted without question."

Both men were testifying before the Senate aviation subcommittee on legislation to increase the CAB's authority. At present, the legislation would give the CAB new powers similar to those being sought by Mr. Brown. The State Department would like to see the Bill's scope narrowed down.

Circumscribed

The subcommittee's action stemmed from growing concern that the international price-cutting battle on the North Atlantic route would result in greater losses for Pan American world airlines and other U.S. overseas carriers.

Although there are now signs that the battle may shortly be resolved, both Mr. Brown and Mr. Rein stressed the need for stronger CAB powers. Under the present law, the CAB's authority is circumscribed by the fact that it can overrule an LATA agreement but cannot act effectively against international fares filed individually by airlines, even if they are identical.

Mr. Brown said that this discouraged the CAB from rejecting LATA agreements (some of which he believed had been bad) and limited the influence of the U.S. airlines in LATA.

Mr. Brown said that if the CAB were granted fare-setting powers, it could compel foreign airlines to fall in. But Mr. Rein said that under bilateral air travel treaties fare disputes must ultimately be settled by Government negotiations, and that unilateral fare decisions by the U.S. would not be binding.

"The pressure on a foreign government, faced with a board set fare, not to give in to U.S. dictation would be very great," he added.

U.S. begins big dumping probe

BY GUY DE JONQUIERES

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.

THE U.S. TREASURY announced today that it had opened proceedings to determine whether heavy electrical transformers manufactured in Britain, four other Western European countries and Japan are being dumped on the American market.

This is the first time that the U.S. has ever taken anti-dumping action against capital goods imports, and the legal and technical ramifications of its decision are expected to be far-reaching and highly complex.

The Treasury has ordered, from today, a "withholding of appraisal" on heavy transformers. This means that payment of duty procedures on all such products imported into the U.S. during the next three months will not be completed, pending a determination by the Secretary of the Treasury as to whether they are being sold at less than fair value.

If the determination is positive, the Tariff Commission will be called upon to determine whether the imports are damaging U.S. industry, and if this is the case an additional duty will be set over and above the prevailing 7 per cent tariff.

Apart from the U.K. and Japan, the four other countries involved are Italy, Switzerland, France and Sweden. The Treasury Secretary's determination will be based upon the findings of an investigation opened in March last year.

Should the U.S. decide to impose anti-dumping duties, the business would be complicated by the fact that since late August, most key world currencies have been fluctuating in value from day-to-day.

Brazil wins oil deal

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

RIO DE JANEIRO, Oct. 20.

BRAZIL'S State oil company Petrosbras announced today that it had won an international tender to supply 1,258,000 barrels of Arabian medium crude oil to Argentina's Yacimientos Petroliferos Fiscales (YPF).

Other bidders were the Chevron Oil Trading Company, British Petroleum, Esso International, and Shell International, the announcement said.

Petrosbras will buy the crude from Chevron Oil Trading company to re-export to YPF and delivery volume will average 30,000 barrels daily over a three month period, starting in October.

The shipments will be made from Ras Tannur, Saudi Arabia, to Sao Sebastiao, State of Sao Paulo, in tankers of 100,000 dwt. The oil ranging from 31.00 to 31.09 gravity will then be transferred to smaller tankers for delivery to River Plate terminals.

Canada to seek formal EEC trade arrangements

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

NEW BRUNSWICK, Oct. 20.

CANADA is to seek a formal trade arrangement with the Common Market. Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister, Mr. Jean-Luc Pepin, told a meeting of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council here that representatives of Canada and the EEC would be appointed soon to what would eventually be expanded into a permanent Canada-EEC Commission. The U.S. already has such an arrangement with the Community.

The Canadian move follows a visit to Canada earlier this year of EEC officials and is part of a new policy to find alternative outlets for Canadian trade to reduce the present 70 per cent dependence on the U.S.

Mr. Pepin said it is essential that Canada diversifies its trade links. Exports to the EEC total \$1,200m, representing only a small proportion of total Canadian trade. The Trade Minister said Canada has now negotiated arrangements that will leave 55 per cent of its present exports to Britain unaffected by U.K. entry into the Common Market.

He warned the provinces and Canadian businessmen against harming the country's domestic market by the creation of artificial trading barriers. Some provinces have tried to protect their poultry farmers against competition from other parts of Canada. Mr. Pepin said the Ottawa Government would seek the co-operation of the provinces.

Kosygin blames U.S. policies

OTTAWA, Oct. 20.

SOVIET Premier Alexei Kosygin took hard but veiled shots at U.S. economic policy today during a warm toast to "fruitful Soviet-Canadian co-operation."

Without mentioning the U.S. by name, he said its policies are causing unemployment and economic slowdowns in other countries. Such a system is no basis for international trade, he said in a luncheon he gave for Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

Mr. Kosygin said international trade must be based on a stable system of foreign exchange rates, on a system which does not compel some countries to pay for it by slowing down their economic development, by curtailing their commercial operations, by increasing unemployment, or by account of the economic miscalculations of others."

AP

THE CARIBBEAN

Montserrat looks to the land

BY TONY COLIER IN BRIDGETOWN

WHEN the Chief Minister of Montserrat, Mr. Austin Bramble, visits Britain for one week next month, it will be his first opportunity to list for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, at first hand, the problems and needs of his tiny Caribbean island.

Mr. Bramble came to power last December in unusual circumstances, ousting his father, Mr. William Bramble, from a position he held for 12 years with virtually no opposition.

The junior Mr. Bramble had been a member of his father's cabinet but resigned to form the Progressive Democratic Party because, he claimed, he had become dissatisfied with the quality of leadership.

The fact that the present government won all seven elected seats in the 11-member legislature was a major surprise throughout the Caribbean. Montserrat's politics had always been synonymous with Willie Bramble who seemed the most unshakable leader in the area. There could have been little doubt after the results, however, that most Montserratians felt it was time for a change.

There are those who contend that a Bramble is a Bramble is a Bramble and that there will be little change. Certainly, the new Chief Minister has done nothing spectacular to indicate that he intends to put Montserrat on a completely new course.

The distinction between his father's policies and his own is likely to be one of emphasis more concerned now with the state of the island's agriculture than anything else. On either issues, he shares many of his father's views. He believes, for instance, the present constitutional status is the best available.

Montserrat remains the odd man out among the Windward and Leeward Islands in that it is still a Crown colony. It was offered, along with all the others, Associated Statehood in 1966 but the senior Mr. Bramble turned it down, maintaining that without reason, that Montserrat would be better off economically under the wing of the British Government.

In a recent interview, Mr. Austin Bramble said there was unlikely to be any change in the constitutional status in the foreseeable future. He was not interested in change for its own sake and would only consider something different "if it benefited Montserrat."

There are, of course, logical reasons for Montserrat's position, even at a time when colonialism is a dirty word throughout the Caribbean. Quite apart from providing roughly 25 per cent of the annual budget (a portion worth just over East Caribbean \$1m—£210,000—this year) and a sizeable sum of development aid besides, the direct link with Britain gives the island an air of stability which is attractive to investors.

Actively encouraged by the senior Mr. Bramble, these investors have bought approximately 2,000 acres for real estate development over the next six years, dividing it into lots to satisfy Montserrat's own, unique type of tourist—those who have retired and want to spend the rest of their days on a tranquil 32 square mile tropical island with a population less than that of a small American town.

It is debatable whether this particular type of tourism would have materialised had Montserrat changed its status. The Government, certainly, has no qualms about boasting of its decision to remain a colony whenever advertising for investment in the overseas Press.

This policy towards tourism has not met with favour from everyone. Its critics claim that too much of the land is being sold to foreigners who contribute only little to the economy since income-tax rates are so low (20 per cent is the maximum). Some advocate tourism along the lines pursued in most of the other islands—the luxury hotels, the apartments, the condominiums—for much faster economic return.

At the moment, Montserrat has only 80 rooms at four small hotels.

While it may be true that tourism has not made the same dramatic impact on Montserrat as it has, say, on Barbados, Antigua or St. Lucia, it has not been as socially disruptive either. Even if nothing else, it has given an impetus to the building trade. On the whole, it would seem that Montserratians are happy with what they have got and the new Government has no plans for altering the status quo.

This is not to say that hotel development will be discouraged (there are, in fact, plans for a 200-unit condominium complex) but the Montserrat Government will not be seeking the Hiltons, the Holiday Inns and the Halcynos which have moved into the other islands. While not particularly concerned with either its constitutional status or tourist development, the Government has not hidden its worry over agriculture.

As it is in most of the West Indian territories, agriculture is struggling to survive as a meaningful contributor to the economy. In Montserrat's case it is a sad paradox, for the soil is rich and the climate ideal for the cultivation of almost any tropical crop. Sea island cotton once thrived and Montserrat's tomatoes are renowned for their quality. Bananas, breadfruit, vegetables, limes are other commodities which grow with little trouble. Why, then, has such a situation developed?

The reasons are many. The general Caribbean-wide stigma attached to working on the land has affected Montserrat as seriously as did the large-scale immigration to Britain in the early 1960s. The rapid decline of sea island cotton and the fact that developers were willing to buy land at rewarding prices have not erased the average farmer's doubts about the future of agriculture.

An attempt three years ago by a Canadian concern to grow tomatoes for export on a huge scale held out high promise and brought quick response from those (not only farmers) eager to cash in on the deal. When the scheme fell through, several people were left with their fingers burned and agriculture suffered another black mark against its name.

There is clear evidence that the former Government paid too little attention to agriculture. Credit facilities for farmers were available only from commercial banks, marketing lacked organisation, there was no proper system of land tenure, and some of the best agricultural lands were sold off to developers.

A recent statement from Government has outlined the new plans for agriculture. The cornerstone is the development of a land settlement programme managed on behalf of Government by a land settlement authority, the statement reveals. This authority will be a statutory body which will operate commercially with the aim of making profits from the development of land for non-agricultural purposes. These profits will then be ploughed back into agriculture.

Another statutory organisation, the Development Finance and Marketing Corporation, is being established with technical and financial assistance from the Caribbean Development Bank. This will provide credit facilities hopefully on easier terms than were available previously and will also be responsible for the marketing (including processing and packaging) of produce both in the island and outside.

The Agricultural Department will be left with the sizeable task of getting the people interested in agriculture once more and convincing them that it can be a profitable undertaking.

Know-how

The Government's thoughts have so far only reached the paper stage. They have yet to be transformed into action and immediate capital and technical know-how will be necessary to get the various schemes off the ground. Both are particularly lacking in an island of only 15,000 people.

There is also the need for infrastructural improvements if the Caribbean market is to be properly tapped. Plymouth, the capital, will have to provide landing facilities for vessels larger than the small inter-island schooners (an application has already been made to the Caribbean Development Bank for funds to improve the pier) and there will have to be adequate storage, processing and packing facilities.

All these things will undoubtedly be foremost in Mr. Bramble's mind when he visits London in November.

The great productivity trap

Consider what happens if you improve your productivity until it reaches the maximum. Fewer and fewer workers get busier and busier until your normal work load is being handled smoothly by exactly the right number of people. That's fine. Until there's a crisis, or demand picks up, or you foresee a peak. If you take on more permanent staff to cope, the effect on your

profits could be disastrous. Sacking them when things return to normal means hardship and bad morale. You're trapped. The answer is, give the extra work to Manpower. We can cope with the peak work load, whatever it is. Our employees, whether one or a team, will do the work for you just as long as the problem is there. It doesn't

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Export
News

IN BRIEF

Third World
loans yield
£14m. orders

BRITISH companies received £14m. worth of orders from developing countries during August and September as the result of loans made by the Overseas Development Administration. Main orders came from Indonesia, Singapore, Turkey, India, Mauritius and the Gambia.

Ashmore, Benson, Pease and Co., of Stockton, Teesside (a Davy-Ashmore company) has just concluded an agreement with Swindell-Dressler Company of Pittsburgh, U.S. (a division of Pullman Incorporated), under which Swindell-Dressler will make available to Ashmore's technical data, designs and know-how relating to ultra high power electric arc steelmaking furnaces. Under the agreement Ashmore will be able to market arc furnaces of this type in the U.K. and many other countries.

The electric arc furnace is claimed to be the cheapest and fastest way of making and melting straight carbon steels and by 1982 it is estimated that the world production of steel made in electric arc furnaces—now about 80m. tons a year—will double.

The Swindell-Dressler design offers the flexibility of being able to melt pre-reduced iron pellets as well as steel and steel scrap, thus shortening the iron-to-steel process route and helping to reduce total initial plant investment.

Racal Antennas, of Bracknell, Berks., has been granted exclusive marketing rights outside Britain for the range of antennae made by the Panorama Radio Company, London. Racal will also act as an agent in the U.K.

An order worth nearly £250,000 has been won by the radio communications division of Rediffon Telecommunications (a member company of the Rediffon organisation) for the supply of radio communications equipment to 19 airports in Nigeria, including the international airports at Ikeja (Lagos) and Kano.

The equipment is to be supplied as part of Nigeria's NE13m. four-year development plan for the expansion of its airports and the modernisation of its runways and landing equipment so as to allow the use of more advanced aircraft in Nigeria's air services.

THE FAR EAST—JAPAN

U.K. steps up promotions
as store sales boom

BY CHARLES SMITH, FAR EAST CORRESPONDENT

ALTHOUGH the winding up of the British National Export Council has resulted in a sharp drop in the number of U.K. trade missions visiting Japan this year, 1971 looks like being a bumper year for the promotion of British consumer goods in Japanese department stores.

No fewer than 44 store promotions are due to be held between now and the end of the year, including the elaborate "World of Henry VIII" exhibition which opened last week in Mitsukoshi, one of the largest Tokyo stores.

Stocking up

The "World of Henry VIII" which was opened last week by Prince Hitachi, the younger son of Emperor Hirohito, is basically an exhibition of 16th century objet d'arts (the exhibits, all of them brought from the U.K., are estimated to be worth around £1.5m.).

However, Mitsukoshi has used the occasion to stock up with about £750,000 worth of British consumer goods in addition to its normal range. There is a mock Fortnum and Masons on the ground floor of the store, while one of the upper floors has been turned over entirely to "stallholders" specialising in individual products.

Government grant

The entire exhibition is due to be transferred later to the Mitsukoshi branches in Nagoya, Osaka and Sapporo, in each case with additional special purchases of British consumer goods.

The reason for the store promotion flurry of activity is partly that consumer sales generally are booming in Japan, and the department stores in Tokyo and other major cities handle a much larger portion of total sales than would be the case in most western countries.

Another fact is that U.K. Government grants to the stores mounting the displays have become more readily available than was expected to be the case early this year. The grants are relatively small, usually less than 5 per cent. of the total cost of a display such as the World of

Henry VIII. But they can still tip the balance for a company trying to choose between, say, an Italian or a British exhibit.

A further reason for the success of the whole operation seems to be the growing willingness of museum proprietors and private owners in Britain to allow their treasures to make the long journey to Japan.

Despite the flood of department store promotions British exports to Japan continue to show a very modest rise compared with the steep climb in Japanese exports to Britain. During the first seven months of the year Britain earned 8.8 per cent. more from the Japanese market than in the same period of 1970 while Japan pushed up its own export earnings by 54 per cent.

Part of the reason for the disparity appears to have been that the U.K. has been less active recently in promoting sales of industrial and scientific equipment in Japan than in the consumer sector.

However, there are signs that this omission may be made good. The U.K. will be represented at the Nagoya Air exhibition this autumn. Next February there will be an exhibition of British medical equipment at the Tokyo Science Museum to be accompanied by a medical symposium featuring six British and six Japanese lecturers.

A total of 10 British trade missions are scheduled to visit Japan in 1972 (some being carry-overs from 1971 when the winding-up of the BNEC forced postponements and cancellations).



Final inspection of a mini-welding head at the Murex Positioning Equipment factory at Knowsley, near Liverpool. The company, part of the British Oxygen Company's welding products division, has recently moved to the Knowsley site, where it will be close to the Liverpool docks, through which most of its overseas sales are despatched. The MPE plant houses the design, production and marketing operations under one roof. The mini-welding heads are suitable for submerged arc, Fuser and MIG welding processes. Some 50 per cent. of production is exported.

With lots
of love
from HMG

THE Department of Trade and Industry is again sponsoring its "Greetings and a Gift to follow" scheme. This scheme, which has proved increasingly popular since its introduction in 1967, enables companies and businessmen to send copies of "Britain 1972" to their overseas business friends and associates.

"Britain 1972," an official handbook prepared by the Central Office of Information and published by HMSO, is an annual on Britain, her economy and institutions.

The handbook—528 pages and illustrated with pictures, maps and diagrams—has built up a world-wide reputation as a source of reference.

On receipt of the completed order form, HMSO will send to the donor attractive greetings cards and envelopes for sending to his overseas customers and associates. On publication, "Britain 1972" will be sent direct by HMSO to each overseas customer on behalf of the sender. The handbook is sent together with a complimentary slip showing the sender's name.

The cost of "Britain 1972" including the gift card and overseas postage is £2.

Pie in the sky

IN THE last six weeks export orders valued in total at just over £1.25m. for aircraft galley, serving trolleys and bar trolleys have been awarded to C. F. Taylor & Co. (Aircraft Workers), of Wokingham, claimed to be Europe's largest manufacturer of aircraft galley equipment and a member of the Aircraft Equipment Division of the Glasgow-based Weir Group.

The latest and largest of these orders is for aircraft galley equipment valued at just over £700,000 for 29 Boeing 737 aircraft being supplied to Iberia, Spain's national airline. Iberia have ordered 116 galleys, four to each aircraft, and delivery of the first complete aircraft set is scheduled for early next year.

Some of the equipment, such as bar trolleys, serving trolleys and meal boxes, will be manufactured in Spain at a C. F. Taylor factory at Torrejon de Ardoz, near Madrid.

The other recent contracts, amounting to £550,000 are from Malaysia Singapore Airlines, Malaysia Air Lines, Air Manila, Air Pacific, Sada, Pan International, South African Airways and Taronair.

When these orders are complete Taylor will have supplied galley equipment for the entire range of Boeing passenger aircraft. In addition, the company has recently been appointed the approved galley manufacturer to the Fokker Aircraft Company of Amsterdam.

DEALING WITH EASTERN EUROPE—1

Advertising—a vital wa
of creating momentum

THE East European Trade Council's booklet entitled "Publicity in Eastern Europe" is to be published shortly. It is the first of its kind to give emphasis to advertising in this market. As such, it represents a departure from the former establishment view that advertising in Eastern Europe is of little value, certainly not as valuable as in the West.

These days there has always been that in selling to a planned economy country, the British exporter is addressing himself to a handful of buyers, mainly in the Foreign Trade Enterprises and that the best way to reach these few decision makers, is through personal visits by export salesmen.

Publicity

While personal contact must still remain the cornerstone of any export drive, publicity is now seen to be an essential tool, very much as in the West. For if the Foreign Trade Enterprises continue to be crucial for the most part, in the process of getting an order, other organisations are important too. In particular, factories and end users such as hospitals, universities and research establishments can contribute to a decision to buy.

To reach this broader spectrum of decision makers, personal visits do not suffice and the company's advertising approach, if it is to be effective, must clearly be effective.

In Hungary, for example, where decentralisation of authority is a basic tenet of the 1968 Economic Reforms, many manufacturing complexes have, in any event, the right to deal direct with the West. In Romania, the new Industrial Centrals are being given greater authority at the manufacturing level. In other countries as well, the trend is toward decentralisation, though in some countries like the Soviet Union, this may be slow.

Percolate

But even in the Soviet Union, where most of the decision-making power still lies with the Foreign Trade Enterprises, it is important to recognise that these can be influenced by end-users.

Interest in Western equipment may manifest itself through an inquiry sent from Kiev to Moscow. And if enough end-users demonstrate such an interest, a momentum is created and the British exporter may then find himself being approached for more information by the Foreign Trade Enterprise in Moscow, though without necessarily being informed about the origin of the inquiry.

The main difference between East and West is the time it

In the first of two articles Peter Zentner looks at the new marketing tools available for exporters who wish to take advantage of the move away from central planning in Eastern Europe.

takes inquiries to percolate through. It may take months, sometimes even years longer in the Soviet Union before the end-user's inquiry finally works its way through the bureaucratic State machinery and into the exporter's in-tray. But in the end, the inquiry is no less important than in the West.

Psychological

The question is how best to stimulate such inquiries. In Eastern Europe, in one form or another, all the normal Western media are available from television, cinema, posters, neon signs to display advertising in newspapers, periodicals and the trade and technical Press. It is generally accepted, however, that the last category is the most effective way of spreading the company message and the most advantageous from a cost point of view. Direct mail, symposia, participation at East European exhibitions are all variations on the same theme of how to approach a wider yet relevant audience.

It is also true to say that an exporter who is prepared to invest money in the prospect's economy, by advertising in the

local media or by sponsoring the national exhibition, sends an important psychological message. Such an action is taken so that the exporter is serious about the market, wanting to establish sound long-term relations with the Socialist state. It also means relatively easy hard currency earnings for the East European country, in a sense a favourable kind of barter, involving no valuable hardware in return.

This is particularly true of consumer goods advertising. The main purpose of this must be to create goodwill with the purchasing organisation importing the products. It is not to stimulate demand, since Western goods are limited supply in East European shops will, in any event, be snapped up, advertising or no advertising.

Hard currency

Clark's TV commercial in Moscow or Gillette's commercials in Sofia will not have expected sales of shoes or razor blades but they will have been a valuable PR exercise vis-a-vis importing companies. However, a western company would not be able to publicise its products if the East European advertising agencies had not agreed. Indeed, East European advertising agencies have been known to refuse advertisements sent to them on occasions when they were unwilling to create a demand for products for which no state funds were available. Or, to put it another way, if an East European advertising agency turns down the possibility of hard currency for this reason, it is because it knows local media are effective. Certainly, the main medium used by British exporters, the trade and technical press, has proved that it can stimulate demand.

Anglo-Hungarian talks
on packaging industry

AN 11-man mission representing a cross section of the U.K. packaging industry is to visit Hungary from November 22-December 3.

The mission will study at first hand the requirements of the Hungarian packaging industry and will also explore the possibilities of Anglo-Hungarian collaboration in various aspects of packaging, particularly in food and drink, dairy, agricultural and pharmaceutical products.

While in Hungary the British Mission will hold discussions with the Hungarian State Office of Technical Development, the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and the Hungarian Institute of Materials Handling and Packaging and will also visit between

15 and 20 enterprises engaged in the manufacture of packaging and in filling and sealing operations. These will include packaging in tin plate, metallic foil, plastics, glass, carton paper and board. The mission will pay particular attention to demand for high quality printing.

Bulgaria

Details have been released of the Bulgarian Science and Technology Days to be held in Britain for the first time. The event comprises an exhibition, technical symposium and scientific films, and will be held at CEBG Headquarters, London ECL, from November 22-29, 1971.

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مكتبة من الكتب

European News

U.K. envoy and Danish PM review surcharge

By Our Own Correspondent

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 20.

BRITAIN is expected to adopt a policy of regret mixed with understanding towards the Danish government's shock proposal for temporary 10 per cent import surcharge, according to informed sources here. However, the U.K. expected to ask the Danes to abolish the surcharge as soon as possible.

It is understood that this was the trend of remarks made to the Danish Prime Minister, Mr. J. O. Reg, by the British Ambassador, Mr. Andrew Stark, this morning. The Ambassador made a courtesy call on Mr. Reg, which was arranged before the Government's measure was known.

Mr. Reg may get rougher treatment when he visits Stockholm at the end of next week. He is expected to be seriously disturbed by the Danish measure, which affects 10 per cent of their total exports. The Danish Parliament, meanwhile, is expected to vote on the import surcharge in the afternoon of the early-to-morrow morning. The committee stage of work on the proposal dragged out to-day and the start of the debate was postponed until 8 o'clock this evening.

The Social Democratic minority Government can count on a majority of one with the support of 72 seats controlled by the Social Democrats and 17 members of the Socialist People's Party, a total of 89. The Opposition parties have 88 seats, but though in this situation there is always a risk of Parliamentary accidents, most observers would doubt whether the opposition would seriously bring down the Government only a month after a general election.

Spain curbs peseta speculation

MADRID, Oct. 20.

THE Spanish Government to-day abandoned interest on convertible peseta accounts held less than three months in an apparent move to head off speculation by foreign banks.

The clampdown came after yesterday's surprise announcement of a new exchange rate with the dollar that amounted to a valuation of the peseta upward by 2 per cent. Other foreign currencies fell slightly to-day in the aftermath of the new rate.

An order effecting to-day required banks to match with a deposit in the Bank of Spain any one transferred into peseta accounts and later exchanged within three months. In addition, a order from the Finance Ministry said no interest would be paid if the account were held for less than three months.

Italy decides to delay start of VAT

ROME, Oct. 20.

The Italian Government decided to-day to seek a delay of six months in the application of a value-added tax (VAT) in Italy.

The decision was taken at a meeting between Premier Colombo, the Ministers of the Treasury and the Budget, Central Bank Governor Carli and other high officials. The EEC had insisted that the VAT system, do so by March 1, 1973. The Italian Parliament passed the necessary laws in less than two weeks ago.

The Government decision was announced by Finance Minister Ciriaco De Mita, who told newsmen after the meeting only that the Government planned to introduce a law limiting the delay. He did not indicate whether the EEC approved the delay, or whether Italy had conferred with the EEC in the matter.

Editorial comment Page 22

EEC summit may be in Paris

BY REGINALD DALE, COMMON MARKET CORRESPONDENT

LUXEMBOURG, Oct. 20.

THE Common Market summit conference between the Six, the U.K. and the other three candidates for Community membership, will almost certainly be held in Paris next spring, if present plans are followed through.

The first concrete preparations for the summit are to take place in Rome on November 6, when the Foreign Ministers of the 10 nations meet for discussions in the framework of the Community's plans for foreign policy coordination.

Britain is expected to be represented at the summit by Sir Alec Douglas-Home, although it is not clear whether Mr. Geoffrey Foppon, the U.K.'s Common Market negotiator, will be there as well. On the day before, following the procedure established last year, the Six will meet separately to consolidate their positions on foreign affairs in terms of April, May or even June.

Poll reveals 50% of West Germans favour neutrality

BY MALCOLM RUTHERFORD

BONN, Oct. 20.

FIFTY per cent of West Germans are now in favour of what the SPD has gained from Germany pursuing a neutral policy rather than a military alliance with the U.S., according to the results of a comprehensive public opinion poll by the much-respected Allensbach Institute. The poll shows that the swing to neutralism has increased steadily since the federal elections in autumn 1969.

In a similar poll two years ago, the vote in favour of neutrality "on the lines of the Switzerland" was 39 per cent. The vote in favour of the American alliance was 48 per cent, but has now come down to 39 per cent majority in the belief that it

Herr Willy Brandt, West German Chancellor who has striven for a new relationship with the states of Eastern Europe, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize yesterday because "he stretched out his hand in reconciliation towards former enemy countries."

The prize, worth \$26,000 this year, is awarded by the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament. Herr Brandt, who was a refugee in Norway while Hitler ruled Germany, was recommended by German and Scandinavian Social Democrats.

The number of "don't know" has fallen from 13 to 11 per cent.

The poll also shows a sharp rise in public confidence in the Social Democrats (SPD) ability to conduct relations with Moscow and East Germany, and indirectly confirms the popularity of the ostpolitik. Seventy per cent of those polled believe that the SPD is doing most to bring about a rapprochement between the two German states, against 52 per cent two years ago. The Christian Democrats (CDU) vote here has fallen from 13 to 10 per cent.

On the question "which party is best suited to improve our relationship with Russia and the other East bloc states?", 67 per cent of those polled chose the SPD against 56 per cent two years ago. The CDU share of the vote fell from 12 per cent to 10 per cent. In both these cases the SPD seems to have gained good opinion of him and 28 per cent heavily by converting people who were previously undecided. The number of "don't know" has considerably declined.

For the SPD, politicians whose standing among the public is the way up include Helmut Schmidt, the Defence Minister, and Georg Leber, the Transport Minister. Both of them would be candidates to replace Prof. Schiller, if the party were to decide he had become a liability. Herr Brandt's standing has remained remarkably unchanged in the two years since he became Chancellor. Sixty per cent of the sample continue to have a good opinion of him and 28 per cent (27 per cent) a bad one. As is always the case with the Chancellor, however, he was voted the most capable politician.

Britain will not abide by EEC investment rule

BY REGINALD DALE, COMMON MARKET CORRESPONDENT

LUXEMBOURG, Oct. 20.

BRITAIN has informally told the Six that it will not consider itself bound by a new Common Market regulation limiting investment incentives in industrial areas until new negotiations on the issue have taken place in the framework of the enlarged Community.

The regulation, which was adopted to-day by the Council of Ministers, states that Government aids in the "central area" of the Community should be limited to the equivalent of 20 per cent of the total value of a new investment. The "central area" includes most of the present Community except for Southern Italy, large areas of France and parts of West Germany.

Nobody disputes the fact that the "central area" will have to be redefined once the Community is enlarged to include four new countries; not only the U.K., but Norway and Ireland also have a direct interest in securing the continued availability of incentives to attract investment to their development areas.

But the British Government has taken the trouble to inform the Six unofficially that in its view the new regulation only concerns present members of the Community, and would not

New Brandt initiative

BY MALCOLM RUTHERFORD

BONN, Oct. 20.

CHANCELLOR Brandt to-day made a new offer of monetary co-operation with France, but warned that there could be no European solution of the currency crisis that was implicit with German economic principles, and strongly implied that there must be a revaluation of the French franc.

In a speech in the Bundestag, the Chancellor said the time had come for a new West European monetary initiative. But he said, the aim of Western Europe must be to establish a "realistic

and constructive position for negotiations with the U.S."

Like Prof. Schiller, the Economics Minister, in his speech yesterday, the Chancellor made no criticism of the American demand for a substantial revaluation of currencies against the dollar, and indeed seemed to regard the demand as perfectly fair. His concern, however, was that other countries (and in current Government thinking this means chiefly France) must join the Germans in the revaluation process.

Both Britain and France are insistent that the summit must be thoroughly prepared in advance and no other Community country would disagree. But formal preparations have not yet started—although there has been a good deal of bilateral diplomatic activity—and several months may still be needed before all the Governments feel that the time is ripe.

Britain has not even started discussing a potential agenda for the conference with Community Governments, although it is generally assumed that the heads of Government would want to talk about more than monetary affairs and the subject originally suggested by President Pompidou.

The U.K. would like to discuss the whole question of the enlarged Community's attitude to the outside world, as well as its internal institutional machinery. Mr. Heath has also publicly hinted that military and defence policies might well be discussed at the same time.

No hurry

The British view is that the accession treaty will be signed before 10 nation summit can take place. Germany has suggested February or March for the summit meeting and the Benelux countries are also pressing for a date early next year. But the French, who originally proposed the idea, appear to be in less of a hurry and the U.K. is now thinking in terms of April, May or even June.

DUBLIN DEBATES THE NORTH

Pressures build up on 'Honest Jack'

BY DOMINICK J. COYLE

DUBLIN, Oct. 20.

AN IMPORTANT element in Whitehall's calculations on Northern Ireland in recent months has been the recognition that Mr. Jack Lynch, the Irish Prime Minister, is a moderate leader who remains under strong pressure from hardliners within the ruling Fianna Fail Party to adopt a much tougher line towards the Stormont Government in Belfast. Accordingly, British policies—with only occasional lapses, such as the noisy exchange of the Lynch/Heath telegrams in August—have been directed at not undermining his position in any way.

Mr. Lynch, for his part, has responded by insisting both inside the Cabinet room and in the Dail (Parliament) that his own particular brand of quiet diplomacy with London is the most effective method of dealing with the Northern crisis. It has, he claims, finally won from the British Government an acceptance of the fact that Dublin does have a legitimate interest, and a positive role to play, in resolving the Ulster problem, recognition which took on concrete form with his presence at last month's tripartite talks at Chequers.

New test

But this policy is not without personal risk to the Prime Minister in a climate in which nationalism continues to run high; to the extent that these diplomatic exchanges are not seen to produce fundamental and fairly immediate political changes on the ground within Northern Ireland, Mr. Lynch's own authority inside the Fianna Fail organisation will be eroded. He faced a new test of his authority when the Dail cut short its summer recess for a special debate to-day and to-morrow on Northern Ireland, and the new Parliamentary term may very well determine the date of the next General Election, and the political future of Mr. Lynch himself.

The debate on Ulster, conceded by the Government following strong pressure from the Labour

Party, comes at a time when Mr. Lynch and many of his senior advisers are beginning to doubt the effectiveness of their own policies in trying to persuade Whitehall to insist on a more equitable sharing of power in Northern Ireland. They see no real signs of the meaningful political initiatives hinted at during the Chequers talks between Mr. Lynch and the British Prime Minister, whereas Mr. Lynch's personal position here is being undermined by increasing criticism from within the Government of late Republican elements throughout the country, including many of the Fianna Fail hardliners, "for helping the British to impose a military solution."

No one can really be sure as to the exact extent of the dissidents' support within the party, but it is certainly sufficient to bring down the Government in any key vote of confidence—and one such vote is scheduled for next month. Indeed, the only real problem for Mr. Lynch's critics is how they can bring him down without turning the Fianna Fail Party itself out of office. For the moment, at any rate, they consider the party who to be preferable to letting a Fine Gael/Labour coalition into government.

Mr. Kevin Boland, formerly a key Minister in Mr. Lynch's Government and one of the party's top electoral strategists, is pressing on with the job of organising his own Republican Unity Party on a countrywide basis, and he is sure to capture some traditional Fianna Fail votes at the next General Election. They may not be enough to give his new movement many (if indeed any) Dail seats, but Mr. Boland and his hardline Republican followers could easily trim off sufficient support from the Government in a number of three-seat constituencies to cost Fianna Fail its present narrow overall majority. Mr. Charles Haughey, the ex-Finance Minister acquitted in last year's celebrated arms conspiracy trial, remains a nominal supporter of Mr. Lynch in the voting lobby, but he, too, is still in fundamental disagreement with the Prime Minister over Northern Ireland, and this tough

and resourceful politician remains a man to watch in any battle for the Premiership.

Somewhat more surprisingly, perhaps, is the fact that Dr. Patrick Hillery, the present Minister for Foreign Affairs, has not been particularly obvious in his direct support for Mr. Lynch. He is already on record as saying that he would like to see Mr. Haughey back in the Government, and there have been some murmurings within the Government of late suggesting that the Foreign Affairs Minister is not anxious to be positively contaminated with the Prime Minister's Northern policies. Indeed, Mr. Lynch himself is now carrying the full can for the Government's policies on Northern Ireland, and Fianna Fail will have no difficulty whatsoever in any key vote of confidence—and one such vote is scheduled for next month. Indeed, the only real problem for Mr. Lynch's critics is how they can bring him down without turning the Fianna Fail Party itself out of office. For the moment, at any rate, they consider the party who to be preferable to letting a Fine Gael/Labour coalition into government.

Gun-runners

Any Fianna Fail replacement for Mr. Lynch in present circumstances can only come from the right wing of the party. A successful challenge to Mr. Lynch is not inevitable, but his critics are gaining stature in the country at large in almost direct proportion to the extent that the British Government is seen here to be putting more and more emphasis on a military solution in Ulster.

The Prime Minister's personal disappointment at the apparent lack of political initiatives by Whitehall is all the more genuine because he is convinced that his Government is sticking to its side of an unwritten bargain stemming from the Chequers meetings and earlier Dublin-London diplomatic exchanges. Both Mr. Heath and Mr. Faulkner have pressed on him the argument that his Government should be doing much more to contain the activities of the various militant Republican factions, and to stop the gun-runners. Mr. Lynch, in fact, has been working quietly along these lines, although he is very naturally anxious not to give the impression that he is taking

action on the instructions of Westminster.

New firearms legislation has increased penalties for the illegal possession of weapons and ammunition and, in particular, it has clarified earlier provisions making it an offence to have guns and ammunition intended for use outside as well as within the state. Thus, IRA men caught in possession of weapons as they cross the border into the South may now be prosecuted; and indeed the Irish police did take a number of men into custody following last week's ambush of British troops near Forkill. This new measure can also be used against men shooting across the border at troops as they work on cratering unapproved roads.

Secondly, the provisions of the New Dangerous Substances Bill circulated here at the week-end are intended, in great measure, to tighten up controls over the manufacture, storage and distribution of all explosives. Meanwhile the police here have just concluded a massive round-up of all guldine held in private hands throughout the Republic. It is now being stored at two main centres under strong military guard; and factories, farmers and quarry owners will require specific authorisation for all supplies.

Thirdly, the Government has increased army and police patrols right along the border with Northern Ireland. Communications are being improved for the police, who are also getting some badly-needed mobile equipment, and the military authorities intend having some armoured car units along the frontier. It is, of course, accepted that no security measures can possibly seal off the entire 300-mile border. But recent steps are certain to improve security in a number of highly sensitive districts. Finally, the Lynch Government has also moved to cut down the opportunities for propaganda to be enjoyed by the IRA. Street collections are being discouraged by the police, and the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, Mr. Gerry Collins, has instructed the State-run mono-

poly radio and television service to refrain from publicising IRA activities or claims in any way to assist even indirectly in promoting their aims and objectives.

There are still loopholes. Customs and police security has been tightened at the main sea and air ports, but Ireland's coastline is literally dotted with tiny inlets capable of taking in small boats carrying guns and ammunition. IRA arms-buying agents are known to have been active on the Continent in recent weeks, and the Government here simply does not have enough manpower to guard all potential entry points. People living in rural areas, particularly along the western seaboard, tend to be much more militantly nationalistic than those in the towns and cities. Many would be more than happy to turn a blind eye on any illegal activities rather than to alert the police.

Enemy within

Mr. Lynch's own answer to all this is that his Government can only use the manpower resources and legal processes that are available to the state to maintain security and prosecute extremists, although he did suggest late last year that internment without trial would be used if militant Republicans did not call off what was then termed a conspiracy against the State. Some of his colleagues within Fianna Fail believe that the Prime Minister has already gone much too far in indirectly assisting the security operations in Northern Ireland. Many opposition deputies, especially in the Fine Gael Party, consider that the present tightening up of security operations has been too long delayed. The Prime Minister, accordingly, has an extremely delicate balance to maintain. If he fails to secure a reasonable political settlement in the North, he may well find that the enemy within the Fianna Fail movement has grown to such proportions as to make his personal position intolerable. His last line of defence would then be the electorate, where the Honest Jack image could yet count for a great deal.

A complete motorway system would cost 250,000 acres of our countryside, 16,000 million pounds and could be complete in 43 years.

Fortunately there exists an alternative.

True, we need better roads. But to build a motorway system that would equal our 10,000 miles of rail would be the ruin of the country.

We have a strong rail system that can carry more people and more freight faster and cheaper than any other form

of surface transport. It will look after our interests in the future only if we protect its interests today.

British Rail

A Great British Investment



Rises by P.O. 'within 5%

By Justin Long,
Parliamentary Correspondent

THE POST OFFICE has begun discussions with the Minister of Posts, Mr. Christopher Chataway, on proposals for increased charges within the terms of the initiative sponsored by the CBI for limitation of price rises to five per cent.

Explaining the intention, the Minister said: "It means there will not be increases of more than 5 per cent—although the initiative allows for increases in certain circumstances which may take the form of weighted averages within 5 per cent."

Suggestions that the Government was seeking to ensure the limitation on increases by pressure for the redundancy of 20,000 postal workers was denied by Mr. Chataway during Question-time exchanges.

"There is no question of 20,000 postal workers being made redundant," Mr. Chataway said. "The Post Office is looking at the scope of its services to determine what is the sensible structure of services for the 1970s."

But on the matter of increased postal tariffs, the Minister promised that no decision would be taken without the Commons being informed.

Pressed to make a firm statement about the future of Giro, he said he was urgently considering the views of the consultants, Cooper Brothers, and Post Office comments on them. These he had now received. "I hope to make a statement soon," Mr. Chataway added.

Telephones

Mr. Chataway said that the total number of households in the U.K. on the waiting list for a telephone was 164,000.

Mr. Ivor Richard for the Opposition asked why the Government was not doing more to continue the ban on the Post Office from manufacturing its own equipment?

Mr. Chataway said: "I have had no demand from the Post Office for permission to manufacture and there is no evidence to suggest this would help matters in any way."

Mr. Kenneth Lewis (C. Rutland and Stamford) asked: "Does it make any sense at all that the Post Office is advertising extra services when in fact they cannot supply people who really want a telephone?"

Mr. Chataway said advertising was designed to make the telephone more heavily used at off-peak hours which was of considerable financial advantage to the Post Office.

"Investment is running at a much higher level than ever before. The Post Office has done extremely well in making a 10 per cent. greater number of connections during this year than was forecast."

Anti-dumping Order

THE COMMONS approved without a division the Anti-Dumping Duty (No. 4) Order 1971, imposing anti-dumping duties on wood chipboard imports from Norway, Sweden, Finland, the Irish Republic and Portugal.

Mr. Anthony Grant, Under-Secretary of Trade and Industry, said his Department had made a thorough investigation in response to representations from the home industry and was satisfied that dumping was occurring.

The duties which were retrospective and ended on October 1, 1971. "After that date, producers concerned under order to raise their export prices to the minimum level considered necessary to eliminate material damage to the U.K. industry."

Blake's vision

TWO BOOKS by William Blake, "Visions of the Daughters of Albion" and "Europe — A Prophecy," have been accepted by the Treasury in part satisfaction of duty on the estate of the late Baroness Culliford of Headley.

Announcing this arrangement in the Commons yesterday, Mr. Patrick Jenkin, Financial Secretary, said the total cost to the National Land Fund after allowing for exemption from estate duty and capital gains tax was just over £20,000. It had been decided that the books should be given on long-term loan to Glasgow University.

Pollution

LEGISLATION to increase substantially the fines that can be imposed for causing pollution will be brought forward as soon as opportunity permits. Mr. Peter Walker, Secretary for the Environment, told the Commons. The proposed Bill would enable the fines to be awarded on summary conviction. It was also intended that more offences should be dealt with on indictment.

Davies—not abandoning UCS policy

BY PHILIP RAWSTORNE

Mr. John Davies, Secretary for Trade and Industry, told the Commons yesterday that the cost of restructuring the shipbuilding industry on the Upper Clyde would be "considerable" but he refused to confirm estimates that it might be as high as £30m.

Denying Labour claims that the Government had been forced to abandon its original policy because of the UCS workers' opposition, Mr. Davies announced that: "The Govan/Linthouse project study would be extended to see if the Scotstoun yard could also be included in a new, economic unit."

Every effort would be made to encourage the private sale of the Clydebank yard—a decision from one prospective buyer was expected in a month or two; The Government would advance another £15m. to the Liquidator, making a total of £55m. of which £27m. was repayable;

Government guarantees would be negotiated with shipowners to enable them to confirm orders with Govan Shipbuilders. "Heavy losses" would be made on this new work as well as on ships now being built for which Government guaran-

tees amounted to £249m. and, in return, The unions would enter immediate "meaningful discussions" with Govan Shipbuilders on working practices and wage rates. If these satisfied the Government about the company's long-term viability, "considerable further public funds" would be needed for launching aid.

Mr. Davies told MPs: "The likely scale of the funds involved in putting a part of UCS on the road to ultimate prosperity reveals very clearly how unreal was the claim that the whole concern could have been saved by the injection of some £6m."

"That might have tided the situation over for a few months but was entirely inadequate to set it on the road to viability even if ship orders to sustain all four yards had been at all in view."

This was disputed by Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn, the Labour spokesman: "It would be much more honest if you would admit that you have been forced into retreat by the determined action of the men, whom you wholly forgot last summer but who are now half way to securing their main objectives."

A range starting at the low end of £250 put forward by the group of experts.

It had been confidently hoped this figure might be materially improved, not only by the inclusion of Scotstoun, two shift and overtime, but also by the inclusion of Govan. As far as any payment made to the company at its moment of absolute crisis was concerned, there is no doubt in the light of subsequent evidence that would have been simply lost money, and only a small part of the subsequent lost money to follow it."

Mr. Edward Taylor (C. Cathcart) said the news that it was intended to confirm existing orders and also the extension of the shipbuilding programme would be welcomed on Clydebank because it would mean more jobs.

He asked when Mr. Davies would be able to say whether Scotstoun would be included in the Govan Shipbuilders' work. Mr. Davies said the question of Scotstoun would only arise when he had in hand the guidance of the company itself coupled with the report of the consultants. He hoped to have this before the end of the year.

Mr. Jo Grimond (Lib., Orkney and Shetland) asked if, assuming shipbuilding continued at Govan, Linthouse and Scotstoun, Mr. Davies could give the number of redundancies expected and what other employment the Government could offer the men.

Mr. Davies said the proposed figure when the company went into liquidation at the end of July was 8,387. It was now almost exactly 1,000 less than that. The prospect of future employment had to be seen in

the aid of a bank loan guaranteed by the Department under Section 7 of the Shipbuilding Industry Act 1971, an undertaking has been given that if the ships are not delivered by certain dates, the Department will relinquish its right to recover from the shipbuilders payments it may be called upon to make under the guarantee.

A guarantee similar to those under Section 7 of the Shipbuilding Industry Act 1967 has been given to another shipowner in respect of one ship. A guarantee offered in February 1971 had not been completed at the time of liquidation and since the Act precludes a guarantee if the shipbuilder is in liquidation, an extra statutory guarantee was necessary. The maximum potential liability which is estimated at £249m. will count against the present limit of £700m. for guarantees under Section 7 of the Act.

Other Expenditure: Expenditure on commitments have also been incurred on consultancy and advisory services totalling less than £100,000.

DETAILS OF financial commitments and liabilities undertaken in relation to Upper Clyde Shipbuilders since June 14, 1971.

Provision of working capital to Liquidator: Payments made to the Liquidator for the first 14 months of the liquidation total £4m. of which approximately £27m. is recoverable. It has been agreed that up to a further £11m. will be made available as additional working capital.

Liabilities assumed: In respect of four ships now being built with the aid of a bank loan guaranteed by the Department under Section 7 of the Shipbuilding Industry Act 1971, an undertaking has been given that if the ships are not delivered by certain dates, the Department will relinquish its right to recover from the shipbuilders payments it may be called upon to make under the guarantee.

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end up with much more militant bodies such as had been experienced in France and Italy. The Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Education and Science, Mr. William Strawbridge, said MPs had sought to make clear that they were not taking part to a "student-bashing operation."

It was understandable that concern should be expressed about the way in which some student unions conduct their affairs. "The matter should be kept in perspective. But there is widespread criticism of practices, wage rates, etc., with some. There is very considerable resentment of the strictly political donations made by some out of money which goes almost compulsorily to the student union."

Finance Corporation call to raise loan limit to £100m.

THE CHAIRMAN of the Finance Corporation for Industry, Sir Humphrey Mynors, said yesterday he would like to see the corporation's borrowing limit of £100m. raised.

Sir Humphrey told a trade and industry sub-committee of the Commons Public Expenditure Committee: "At the moment we are practically fully lent—more than we ever have been in our history."

"I should like, therefore, to have a larger limit than was fixed when we were formed in 1945, and which has never been increased."

Sir Humphrey said that £100m. meant a great deal more in 1945 than it did today, and even if the limit were doubled, they would still not be larger than they were originally.

Sir Humphrey told the committee that the corporation, formed by the Bank of England, the merchant banks and insurance companies, just after the war to help finance industry, filled certain gaps in the money market.

One of these was in the time length of loans. If a company wanted money for too long a period for a bank loan and too short a period for a bond issue, they applied to FCI.

If I went to the banks now asking for a loan on £250m., which is about what the original £100m. limit is worth at present, they would be loath to agree to this in a vacuum," Sir Humphrey told the committee. "Put up a proposition to them for the money and they might consider it."

Sir Humphrey said he felt the institutional shareholders would be reluctant to see the corporation's borrowing limit go up because it would mean their liability would be at a slightly greater risk.

He explained that, although the corporation had not been ready to go to the market.

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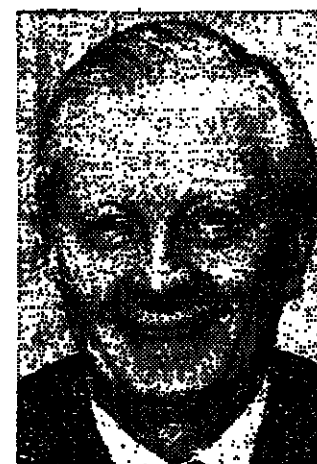
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DAVIES... many interesting observations by Mr. Benn.



BENN... you have been forced into retreat.



TAYLOR... news will be welcomed on Clydebank.

The statement

IN HIS STATEMENT, Mr. Davies

said: "Govan Shipbuilders—the company set up with private capital to bring into effect the Government's wish to see a viable merchant shipbuilding industry on the Upper Clyde—has been faced with difficult problems to surmount before it can commence its task."

"A condition of its receiving Government support was that it should enter into satisfactory agreements with its workers or their representatives concerning working practices and wage rates. But until very recently there was unwillingness on the side of the workers to enter into meaningful discussions with the company to this end."

Results

"On the other hand the Liquidator was running out of work at Govan and Linthouse with a threat of heavy redundancy because the shipowners were unwilling, without far-reaching guarantees, to confirm their orders. Moreover the Liquidator was becoming very short of funds."

"In these circumstances I have had recent discussions with Mr. Dan McGarvey, of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, and subsequently Sir John Eden, the Minister for Industry, has had talks with the shipowners primarily concerned."

"The results of these meetings are:—
"Mr. McGarvey, with the full agreement of the ship stewards, worked on by the Liquidator are likely to realise a heavy loss, as

circulating in the official report undertaken that there would immediately be meaningful discussions with Govan Shipbuilders on the understanding that the Government would give the requisite guarantees to the shipowners to enable work to be maintained."

"We have further jointly agreed to work together to encourage a purchaser for the Clydebank yard to come forward, and also to consider whether it would be in the economic interest of Govan Shipbuilders to include Scotstoun within the project."

"The Minister for Industry is negotiating with the shipowners the terms of a guarantee they need to enable them to confirm their orders. The financial commitments already agreed are substantial and I am publishing full details of them in the official report. A further statement will be made when the remaining negotiations are completed. Estimates will be presented to the House in due course."

Orders

"To these will be added the considerable further public funds needed for investment in Govan Shipbuilders in addition to its private funds, so long as the company can put before me a fully appraised proposal for a concern capable of attaining a long-term viability including, of course, evidence of satisfactory agreements reached with the unions."

"It is already abundantly evident that the ship orders being worked on by the Liquidator are likely to realise a heavy loss, as

with the shipowners in question to take place. "I will complete negotiations with the shipowners of the guarantees they need. The unions will enter into meaningful discussions with Govan Shipbuilders."

"The study of the Govan/Linthouse project which I have already commissioned will be extended to look at the alternative of the inclusion of Scotstoun."

"I am ready to advance up to £11m. to the Liquidator over and above £4m. already advanced, which £27m. is repayable."

"I express the profound hope that all those having the future of shipbuilding on the Upper Clyde at heart will work together to make a success of these endeavours."

Success

"The following action is now to take place. "I will complete negotiations with the shipowners of the guarantees they need. The unions will enter into meaningful discussions with Govan Shipbuilders."

"The study of the Govan/Linthouse project which I have already commissioned will be extended to look at the alternative of the inclusion of Scotstoun."

"I am ready to advance up to £11m. to the Liquidator over and above £4m. already advanced, which £27m. is repayable."

"I express the profound hope that all those having the future of shipbuilding on the Upper Clyde at heart will work together to make a success of these endeavours."

Success

"The following action is now to take place. "I will complete negotiations with the shipowners of the guarantees they need. The unions will enter into meaningful discussions with Govan Shipbuilders."

The agreement

RECORD OF A meeting between Mr. John Davies, Sir John Eden and Mr. McGarvey, of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, made the following points:—

(a) Their principal objective was to seek means of preserving employment in all four yards of the UCS.

(b) In relation to the orders immediately needed at Govan to facilitate the establishment of Govan Shipbuilders, the CSEU was prepared to give assurances as to the contribution of the work force to the timely and efficient delivery of the ships, providing the Government was prepared to give the requisite guarantees to the ship owners in question, and

providing the Liquidator was prepared to set in hand work on those orders.

(c) As soon as the arrangements envisaged in (b) above had been made they were prepared immediately to enter meaningful negotiations regarding working practices, wage rates, etc., with Govan Shipbuilders. These negotiations would cover the operation of the Govan and Linthouse yards and would be extended to cover Scotstoun as well, providing the feasibility study, including the inclusion of the last named yard to be in the economic interest of the whole project.

Mr. Davies agreed in view of the undertakings given by the representatives of the CSEU to assist in the finalisation of negotiations with the shipowners in question, and

with a view to reaching agreement upon the guarantee required to secure the confirmation of the orders above referred to. He welcomed Mr. McGarvey's assurance that in these circumstances talks would quickly begin to secure the establishment of Govan Shipbuilders.

It was furthermore agreed that the Government and the CSEU would make every effort to encourage a purchaser for the Clydebank yard and that the purchaser would be eligible for substantial financial assistance under the Local Employment Act. The CSEU considered that this would create a proper climate for meaningful discussions with Govan Shipbuilders.

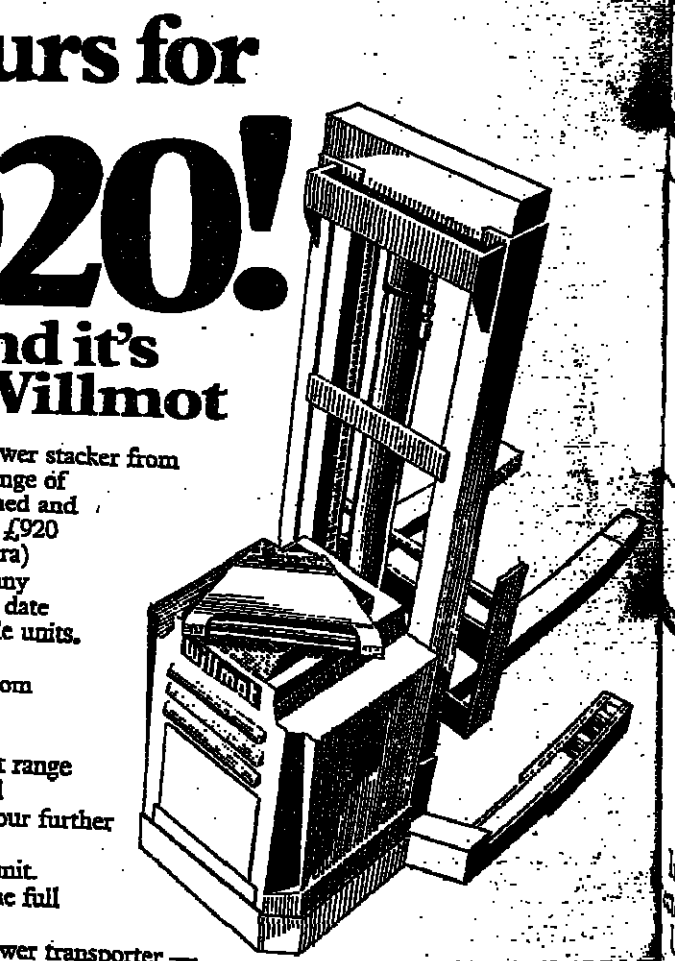
and it's made by Willmot

This is a standard 10' lift power stacker from the brand new "Genie" range of high lift stackers designed and manufactured by Willmot. At £920 (batteries and charger extra) it costs much less than any comparable stacker. It's up to date in design—with replaceable units. It's accessible. It's tough. It handles like a dream from a single control handle. It's available NOW.

The whole "Genie" product range is based on the one standard power unit and there are now four further variations of attachments. The "Genie" counter balanced unit. The "Genie" prime mover for the full range of industrial trailers.

The "Genie" power transporter—for those many fetching and carrying operations. The "Genie" Power Pallet truck with variable lengths and widths to fit varying pallets and skidways. Ask Willmot for full details—new full colour brochure now available.

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Other Overseas News

BRIEF

PEKING. Dr. Henry Kissinger, President Nixon's top foreign policy aide, began talks with his Chinese hosts yesterday.

TOKYO. Chinese Foreign Minister Pao Hsiang-kuo, speaking on Tuesday at a visit to Japan, said that the Chinese government had agreed to work for the unity of the Group of Seven, which represents the interests of developing countries in UNCTAD, by setting up a permanent secretariat.

NEW DELHI. India and Yugoslavia supported India's stand on the political settlement to the conflict between India and Pakistan.

TUNIS. The Government-controlled Press yesterday issued a statement saying that the President of Tunisia, Habib Bourguiba, had been elected to a second term.

DAR ES SALAAM. The South-West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) said here that it had killed several soldiers in three actions in the north-western part of the country.

CAIRO. Some 1,750 candidates have been nominated for the 25-member Peoples Assembly. The election will be the last stage in M. Sadat's programme of reform of Egyptian institutions.

NEW BENGAL HARITY DRIVE

Kevin Rafferty
FAM is launching a campaign to persuade world leaders to take more interest and provide more money to rescue people who are suffering in Bangladesh. The charity has issued a special report 'The Testimony of Sixty', containing details from 60 people, mainly Muslims and aid workers, on the situation in Bangladesh. This document is being sent to all British MPs and to U Thant, President of the UN and other heads of state.

Signs of strain in Arab federation

BY RICHARD JOHNS, MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

TRIPOLI. President Sadat will visit Tripoli in the near future for what could be a strained meeting with Colonel Muammer Khedafi, the Libyan leader.

According to Cairo Press reports, President Sadat made known his intention of going to Libya at the weekend when he was briefing the Arab Socialist Union Central Committee on his Moscow talks. Just previously, on October 16, the Libyan Arab Forces newspaper Al Jundi had expressed a surprise that President Sadat and President Assad of Syria had issued a joint communiqué in Damascus. Radio Tripoli expressed similar sentiments.

Libyan resentment arose out of the fact that foreign affairs are a federal subject in the embryonic Federation of Arab Republics which came into being in September 1. By contrast, Libya claims that Col. Khedafi, President Sadat in Moscow to tell him about his talks with President Boumedienne.

President Sadat is believed to have been displeased by Col. Khedafi's public criticism of the Algerian president. In addition, he will probably tell the Libyan leader of the Kremlin's grave concern over the militant anti-communism of the Tripoli regime.

E. Pakistan instability endangers economy

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

KARACHI, Oct. 20.

UNSTABLE political conditions in East Pakistan are likely to force Pakistan to cut back its economic plans, according to experts here. Economic activity is slow and the scarcity of foreign exchange is affecting industrial progress.

An increase in premium rates by U.S. and British insurers is also causing concern to Pakistani businessmen. The war risks rating committee and Lloyd's said the increase in insurance rates on cargoes to and from East Pakistan from yesterday was covered by clauses relating to war and strike, riot and civil commotion risks. Business circles in Karachi claimed that this appeared to be an international conspiracy to cripple Pakistan, and asked the Government to intervene.

Another setback to the economy is that hundreds of applications are at present still pending with industrial financing agencies because of the shortage of foreign exchange funds following the cutback in foreign aid and credits earlier this year.

Jordanian guerilla pact near

By Our Own Correspondent

BEIRUT, Oct. 20.

AN AGREEMENT between the Jordanian Government and Palestinian guerrillas to settle their conflict may be imminent.

A Saudi official spokesman has announced that commando and Jordanian Government representatives will resume their talks in Jeddah in the next few days.

The first was that the Federation should make a declaration of support for Muslims throughout the world (apparently reflecting Khedafi's concern about persecution in the Philippines); secondly, that the prohibition of alcohol in force in Libya should be extended to Egypt and Syria; and, thirdly, that all three countries should revive the traditional Islamic zakat, or tax levied on the rich to help the poor.

Our Cairo correspondent writes: During President Sadat's recent visit to Moscow the Soviet leaders showed particular concern about anti-Soviet trends in the Arab countries and also about reports of an Egyptian understanding with the U.S. on a Middle East peace settlement, according to an article in today's Al-Ahram.

An article is written by Lord of Khail, a member of the Arab Socialist Union Central Committee, who was in Moscow at the same time as President Sadat as a member of a delegation holding talks with a Soviet Central Committee team.

Emergency declared in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, Oct. 20.

Prime Minister Lon Nol declared a state of emergency today and appointed a new Government to rule by "ordinance" rather than by constitutional law. He said he no longer will "play the game of democracy and freedom" since it stands in the way of victory.

The Prime Minister, in a nationwide broadcast following a silent protest by Buddhists against Saturday's suspension of the National Assembly, appealed for unity but coupled it with a veiled threat against dissenters.

Recently, certain groups have launched acts aimed at creating confusion," he said. "There is a fifth column at work."

IVORY COAST

Experiment in TV teaching

BY TAMAR GOLAN IN ABIDJAN

A LITTLE less than a month ago the West African Republic of Ivory Coast became one of the first countries in the world to embark on a scheme of educational television (ETV) designed eventually as the main method of teaching in all state primary schools.

The first 11,000 Ivorian pupils in 497 classes have now sat for the first time in front of the shining screens some of which are located in classrooms in remote villages in the heart of the tropical forest.

Experts from UNESCO and individual developed countries such as France, Canada and the U.S. (the British Government has contributed educational material from the BBC) are all engaged in this undertaking, which has been called here The Challenge.

School-age

The project is so far only in its initial stages. Eventually ETV is intended to cover all the country's primary schools and to provide, by 1980, primary education for every child over the age of six. For the time being however only about five per cent. of all school-age children are involved. Coverage, with main transmission at Bouake in central Ivory Coast, is by no means countrywide; that too, will have to wait ten years.

But in each of the next ten years it is hoped to involve a further 25,000 pupils in the scheme. The hope is that the use of television will not only speed up the teaching of French—the basic educational language in the Ivory Coast—but that all other subjects on the primary school curriculum will also be covered.

Not surprisingly the experiment is costly. It is estimated that the total cost of education (capital and recurrent) in the Ivory Coast over the next decade will be around \$500m. The Ivory Coast itself will provide by far the largest proportion of this (80m), has been staged for the initial phase; but part of an \$11m. loan from the World Bank for education as a whole is to be used on the TV project.

As was to be expected, the criticisms and doubts about the necessity and success of this revolutionary educational reform are manifold.

The most common question is whether present and projected economic development in the Ivory Coast requires such a drastic increase in the number of school-leavers. Will not ETV exacerbate to an alarming degree one of the most serious problems of developing countries—that of semi-educated, unemployed youth? Is there any point in educating greatly increased numbers without at the same time planning their absorption in the economy?

From this stems yet another criticism of Ivorian ETV: a great deal of attention is devoted to explaining to the public the technical merits of teaching by television as opposed to the more traditional methods, but virtually nothing is being said about reform of the content of education. Although on several occasions the need for adapting educational curriculae to the African context has been stressed, no official statement has been made about the possibility of the Ivory Coast severing its ties with the French curriculum; the latter is still the sole basis for examinations and certificates at all levels of education.

Likewise, not enough has been revealed about the alternatives open to students who fail to obtain the required results in the normal four-year course envisaged in the ETV primary school system.

They are to be directed towards some kind of vocational schools, but the curriculum for those is not yet available. Scenarios thus doubt whether the immense cost is justified in terms of the expected results, and alarmists even go as far as to warn of an "educational explosion."

On the technical level, the problem of maintenance seems to worry many observers, while the big centres will probably prove capable of operating the TV and coping with breakdowns, it may be more difficult in the remote areas. To help solve this problem, two sets and a score of spare parts have been furnished to each class; the box containing the TV and parts is safely locked and the whole apparatus easy to handle. Still, a great "army of technicians" (at present mostly foreigners) must be kept in a general state of alert. The problem of getting to the interior for repairs is not so crucial in the Ivory Coast as it might be in other countries, however, since the country is compact and has relatively good infrastructure. In vast, sparsely populated and poorly equipped Niger, this seems to have been the crucial factor in the discontinuation of "Tele-Niger."

The common worry about the teacher becoming obsolete, is of course completely dismissed by the ETV planners who emphasise that the televised lesson will only ever be the first 15 minutes of a regular lesson; it will thus not replace the teacher but give him more flexibility and freedom for more fruitful contact with his students.

No chance
President Felix Houphouët-Boigny has always had a pioneering spirit. In his search for effective solutions he has not shunned unconventional methods. Before the Ivory Coast achieved its independence, he had financed from his personal fortune, the studies in Europe of some 150 young and talented Ivorians who had no chance under the colonial education system (up to 1959 Ivorians had to go to Senegal or Europe for their "baccalauréat").

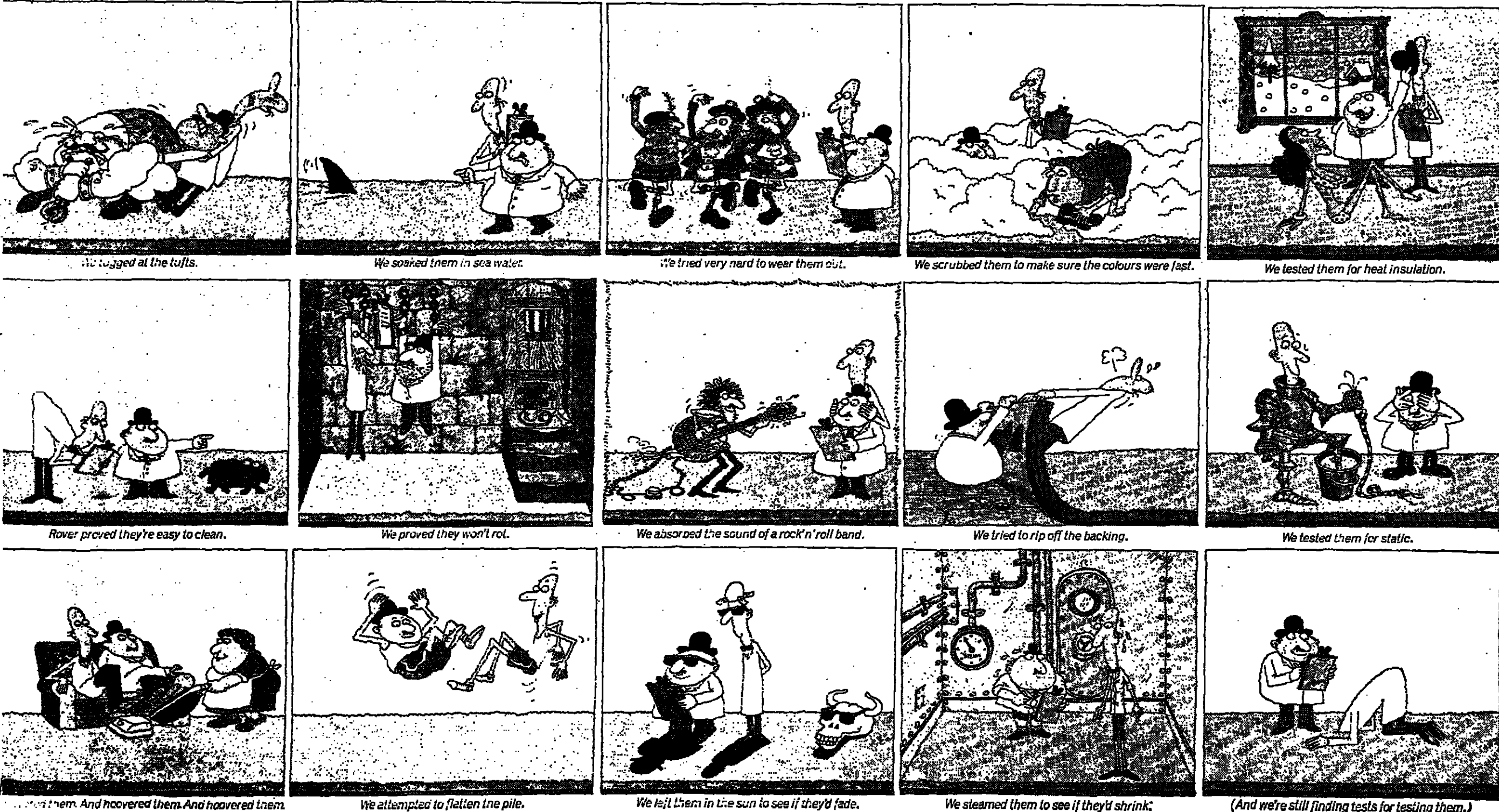
This quiet revolution may become a big cultural revolution provided the introduction of TV does not perpetuate the anachronisms of a curriculum where pupils have to recite the deeds of "nos ancêtres les Gaulois" and provided their post-ETV future is guaranteed. This is the challenge presented by ETV.

Poland lends Lagos £10m.
LAGOS, Oct. 20.
POLAND today offered Nigeria a £10m. loan in a fresh move to boost the meagre trade between the two countries. The loan offer was pledged by the first deputy minister of foreign trade, Mr. Ryszard Strzaleski, during the first round of talks here today between his visiting Polish trade mission and Nigerian Government officials. A Polish Embassy spokesman, who was present at the talks, said details of the proposed loan would be negotiated tomorrow in continued talks with officials, especially those at the Finance Ministry.

A Nigerian government spokesman described today's meeting with the three-man Polish delegation as encouraging. "We have told them that we are prepared to enter into partnerships in the mining and agricultural industries," he said.

Australian prices soar
CANBERRA, Oct. 20.
FEARS about the accelerating rate of inflation were confirmed today by official statistics for the September quarter. The consumer price index rose by 1.7 per cent., equivalent to an annual rate of inflation around 6.8 per cent. and an increase in basic living costs of about \$A1.52 a week.

Not since 1956 has the index shown such a rise in what is usually the relatively stable September quarter. With the certain knowledge of worse to come in the final three months of the year, the Government's economic policy has been pushed unquestionably into number one position among current political issues. The biggest components of the latest cost of living rise are increased charges levied by State governments who have been consistently critical of their financial treatment by Canberra. Fares rose 17.3 per cent. in the latest index figures and health service costs 7.8 per cent., accounting for about 81 cents of the total of \$A1.52.



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job by the Wool Industries Research Association. Normally any carpet that can take 50,000 revolutions from this machine is reckoned to be okay for high traffic areas.

But after 100,000 revolutions, when most carpets are worn through to the backing, Armstrong high traffic carpet is still going strong. (100,000 revolutions, by the way, is equivalent to over 15 years very hard wear.)

Unfortunately, there's not enough

space here to detail the results of the other 67 tests. But we're equally chuffed about them. Write in and we'll tell you why.

We'll prove that when it comes to office carpet, anything you can do we can do worse.

Armstrong

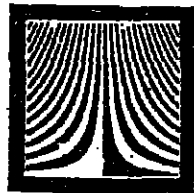
Armstrong Cork Company Limited, Chequers Square, Uxbridge, Middlesex.

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The Technical Page

EDITED BY ARTHUR BENNETT AND TED SCHOTTERS

LIQUID CRYSTALS

Colours mark heat changes

LIQUID crystals flow like liquids but show the optical characteristics of crystals. More specifically, the molecules of a liquid crystal have a defined order somewhere between a liquid and a solid.

The first recorded example of a liquid crystal was in 1888—it was cholesterol benzoate, and was characterised as a new substance because it displayed brilliant colours when heated and cooled. Until the 1930s liquid crystals were the subject of considerable research: interest faded but revived in the 1960s and since then almost all the major electronics corporations in the U.S. have been engaged in some form of liquid crystal research.

Research workers have classified liquid crystals in two broad divisions—thermotropic and lyotropic. Those demonstrating thermotropic mesophases are further divided into smectic, nematic and cholesteric types. Of these it is the cholesteric and nematic liquid crystals that have stimulated the greatest industrial, commercial, and artistic interest.

Nematic liquid crystals are normally transparent, but on application of a small voltage (3-30 volts, AC or DC) they become translucent or "frosted". The degree of transmittance is controlled by the voltage, and the process reverses as voltage drops. Response time is a fraction of a second.

Manufacturers of nematic crystals envisage a whole range of applications (some in electronics are described in the following article), including windows that automatically darken in sunlight, optical shutters, alpha numeric systems, inch-thick TV sets to hang on the wall like a picture, and a variety of display devices and signs.

Cholesterics are probably the most interesting of the liquid crystals. Their most intriguing

characteristic is their iridescence when illuminated with ambient light. This is caused by polarisation, and produces the full visible spectrum from red to violet. The colours shown by liquid crystals are unique for a specific temperature, making quantitative measurement of temperature possible to an accuracy of less than 0.1 degree C. By selecting a particular liquid crystal, colour changes caused by temperature variations can be indicated in a range from -20 to 250 degree C.

For example, a liquid crystal may appear dark red at 30 degrees C; if the temperature rises to 31 degrees C the colour shifts through yellow, green and blue to violet. The crystal is colourless above and below its operating range, which in this example is 30 to 31 degrees C.

The colour characteristics may be changed by subjecting to heat, organic vapours, and shear or stress. The right cholesteric may be used for measuring temperature gradients, gas detection, or registering shear phenomena down to 0.5 gram/square centimetre.

Liquid crystals are manufactured in the U.S. by Liquid Crystal Industries, of Turtle Creek, Pa. 15145, and both nematic and cholesteric crystals are marketed in the U.K. by C. T. (London) Electronics, of Sutherland Road, London, E.17. The company will supply an experimental kit containing small quantities of cholesterics of a broad selection of temperature ranges, which can be sprayed with a special aerosol. The sprayed crystals can provide a thermographic map of the treated surface, monitoring temperature changes from moment to moment.

Response time is about one-fifth of a second, and possible applications include detecting hot spots on integrated circuit boards, overheating in electrical

imperfect bonding in laminated materials, and for correct heat distribution in heat exchangers. The material has been used to determine local temperature variations in the metal structure of a machine tool. Sprayed on the human skin, cholesteric crystals can help pinpoint significant temperature contours that might indicate abnormalities in the tissue.

The crystals can be supplied with an irreversible colour change to provide a permanent record of temperature variations. Two kits are available—one covering temperatures between 0 and 72 degrees C, the other 80 to 184 degrees C.

Apart from research and technology, the maker considers that cholesteric crystals have considerable potential in decorative art and for the manufacture of gifts and novelties.

Simplified display

ELECTRONIC display panels that use liquid crystals instead of lamps or tubes to flash messages are moving closer to the point at which they can be marketed because of new and simplified circuitry developed by research staff from the General Electric Research and Development Center, P.O. Box 8, Schenectady, NY 12301, U.S.

The new GE design requires only 16 electrical leads for an eight-character-wide display, compared to the 68 needed for competing liquid crystal displays.

The development is expected to speed applications of liquid crystals in advertising displays, computer time-sharing terminals, calculators, and electronic wristwatches, according to Dr. Arthur M. Busche, vice president for research and development.

Fabrication costs are expected to be considerably lower than conventional displays, and the amount of electronics required will be reduced by some 75 per cent, and because alternating current is used, liquid crystals have a longer lifetime than those used in conventional direct current systems. In the devices the liquid crystals scatter available light when a voltage is applied, becoming turbulent and changing in appearance from transparent to opaque or frosted.

Since no light is emitted or generated, very little power is required to operate liquid crystal displays. It amounts to about 300 microwatts per square inch of area to be activated.

The eight-character display was made by sandwiching a liquid-crystal layer between two plates of glass. The top plate is coated with a conductive film, patterned to form eight separate blocks. The lower plate is coated directly beneath each block to fashion seven segments grouped in a figure-eight pattern. When various combinations of segments are activated, a specific numeral—ranging from 0 to 9—can be formed, along with a decimal point.

Key to the display is a single lead linking all common segments and decimal points along the horizontal row. In addition, each of the eight characters across the display has a separate lead, so that each character can be activated independently or simultaneously. Each character is scanned electronically in sequence to determine which ones are to be activated.

By changing the frequency of the alternating current on the leads, the liquid crystal film behind each of the eight blocks can be made to appear either transparent or opaque. A high-frequency pulse makes the liquid crystal film appear transparent. A low-frequency pulse makes it opaque or frosted. Thus, messages or displays can be created as desired.

POLLUTION

Managers must be responsible

MANAGEMENT bears the main responsibility for pollution prevention, according to Mr. A. J. Biggs, the CBI's chief technical adviser on pollution problems. Speaking during the "Pollution '71" symposium at the Production Engineering Research Association at Melton Mowbray, he said managers must make themselves aware of legislation affecting effluent from their plant, both gaseous and liquid.

They must learn to use the best practices and techniques to comply with laws and regulations as economically as possible.

Mr. Biggs foresaw increasing pressure over the next few years to abate pollution, but warned his audience that the resources available for the job are unlimited and pointed to the need for continuing consultation between industry and Government, as well as local authorities.

COMPUTERS

Modelling made easy

IMPROVED business forecasting with much simpler equipment and procedures than normally associated with company model building is possible by means of an analogue display comparator which uses simple mathematical relationships to build a working replica of a business or company situation.

Designed as the first of a series of such devices by Management Aids of 90 Tontine Street, Folkestone, Kent, the unit is supported by an advisory service by the company whose staff can show potential users how to obtain the data they need to work the machines.

Accuracy improves as the equipment is used and it may help the smaller operator as a stepping stone to the more elaborate operational research techniques.



METALWORKING

Unblemished sheet metal

STRIPPABLE deep-drawing coatings which protect the surfaces of metal sheets during forming are made from a liquid synthetic polymer combined with dissolved synthetic resins, formulated to allow thinning with a number of organic solvents.

This combination, known as "Telzinyl," sets into a plastic film which provides good protection against blows and abrasion in processing and transport. High-grade surface finishes are thus retained on the final product. In addition, sensitive forming tools are shielded from corrosion and premature wear.

Applications include deep-drawing of car parts, stainless steel, tableware and decorative facade elements for buildings; and protection of metal surfaces (particularly bright or polished sheets) against chemical or mechanical harm during delivery and storage.

As a clear varnish, dyed red or blue, the coating is supplied in four viscosities with a run-out time of 80 to 120 seconds (based on DIN standard measuring cup).

Its shelf life is six months. Methods of application are dipping, curtain-coating and flow-coating.

A curtain-coating machine is used for large surfaces. Telzinyl can also be sprayed on objects from a distance of 25 to 30 mm by a spray gun incorporated in an automatic sheet-coating line.

A touch-dry film is obtained within 12 to 15 minutes at a flash point of less than 21 degrees C, or in 30 minutes at over 21 degrees C. Coated sheets are dry enough to stack in five to 24 hours, but the drying can be accelerated by hot air.

The sheets are readily formed without lubricants, even when their formability is not fully used. The coating acts as a lubricant in the tool gap. When applied to only one side of the sheet it shows better drawability. While the coating's formability improves with decreasing thickness, the stripping properties deteriorate proportionately, so that an optimum thickness must be found.

Further details from Chemie-Export-Import, 1055 Berlin, Storkower Strasse 133, East Germany.

Pneumatic drilling

SPECIAL purpose, low-cost automatic drilling machines have been brought out by Fraser-Nash (Engineering), of South Street, Midhurst, a company which is widely known as a design engineering organisation.

A typical machine from the new range is a double carriage pneumatic drilling machine capable of drilling up to 90 holes of even pitch, but different angles, in a curved aluminium or steel component.

Automatically programmed on a linear track arrangement, the machine is based on the double carriage principle—while one component is being drilled on one carriage, the other carriage is reloaded.

Jigs mounted on the carriages provide for the location and clamping of the components to be drilled. To operate the machine, the operator moves either carriage into the central position, automatically locking it into the first drilling position.

The machine is fitted with Desoutter-AFD self-feed, fully automatic drill units, which drill over 10 linear movements to provide the required pattern of holes.

Holes may be drilled up to 5-16th inch diameter in alu-

minium and 1 inch diameter in steel. Counterbore and recesses can be provided in addition to plain holes, and tapping capability is optional. A spray lubrication system is built into the machine to assist the drilling or tapping operation.

Ferrets in a cradle

FACED with the problem of extensive modifications to Ferret Scout Cars, the Army at Chilwell, Nottingham, decided to design a cradle to enable the welders to operate down-hand on a flat surface in safety. This method saves having a crane in use throughout the modification process, and minimises risk of accidents involved with men crawling around the one-ton Ferret hulls suspended from a crane.

The 50-1 reduction gear enables the welder to rotate the Scout Car hull on the cradle through 360 degrees like a "pig on a spit" and work on the hull in absolute safety.

The cradle, designed at 38

SOFTWARE

Speeding up the tour operation

ADDED at package tour operators, a computerised reservation system which has cost so far £120,000 to create, is being offered by Detwiler, Thomas & Associates in conjunction with Centre-File, the National Westminster computing services school.

Centre-File will be operating the service as a share facility along the lines on which it provides services to brokers and building societies.

Operators will have visual play units and/or printers at their offices and as inquiries are made, the sales staff will be able to interrogate the central mainframe to find out just what is available. If the answer "yes" details are displayed on the local screen, or printed out and the booking is confirmed immediately. If the requested holiday cannot be arranged, the nearest alternatives are automatically presented.

As soon as a booking is made the computer programs immediately update all information on file so that there is no chance of a double booking. The system also allows the operator to off-holidays he has available, reducing the risk of finding that some have been left on the shelf.

Packaged tour operators are expected to grow over the next few years as such a rate that they will have doubled by 1980. Administrative problems involved in booking, together with clerical staff shortages, make operators' problems a nightmare of paperwork unless computer techniques are adopted.

Tourism is the largest industry in the world and any system which will reduce the frequency of the much-publicised wrong bookings is to be welcomed.

Detwiler, Thomas & Associates, 21 Montagu Street, London W.1.

Moving over to work in real-time

MANY COMPUTER installations are moving towards a multi-manufacturer situation which requires users either to do a great deal more software writing themselves than they have hitherto done, or to rely on the services of software houses for proprietary packages or work which reconcile the existing system to the additional equipment.

One such product, mentioned at a seminar in London yesterday, is a monitor for communications systems operating in real time from larger IBM machines.

"Intercomm" is a product of Programming Methods Incorporated, itself part of the GTE Information Systems centre at Cambridge, Way, Feltham, Middlesex.

It has cost a considerable amount of time and money to develop and is described as a "monitor" for real-time operation by providing a processing of many messages in parallel without allowing the central processor to remain idle while files are being consulted.

Intercomm allows batch processing users to convert to real time without having to rewrite applications programs. At the same time, it allows development of new systems to write in a variety of languages.

It permits safe recovery of all messages in the event of computer failure and it will add to the system without any effect on users' programs.

This equipment—Ferranti's latest modular digitiser—has been designed to collect information from drawings and maps and convert it into data processing codes. There are no moving parts other than the cursor, which is free to move over the digitising surface in random movements.

Central Workshops REME, at Chilwell, complies with four criteria: all-round accessibility for the welder; cheapness to manufacture; safety in use; and mobility on the workshop floor.

Reliance Sheet Metal, of Nottingham, won the tender to make the prototype for £490 and has since produced three more rigs or cradles to give a two-day production line capacity.

Trimming coiled strip

STATED to be a convenient economic method for edge trimming coiled strip, a rotary trimmer has been developed by Redman ARM Engineering, Whitehall Road, Tipton, Staffs.

The rotary knives in the motorised cutting head work like a slitter, with the upper knife knurled. When edge trimming is required the head is pulled into contact with the strip edge. The upper knife bites into the strip, driving the head forward and cutting across the strip width. When the cut is complete, the knives lose their grip and the head is returned by hand or counter balance weight.

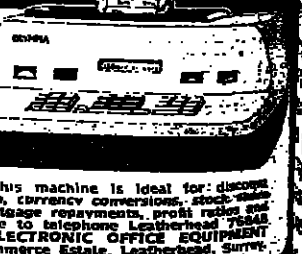
The unit is mounted on casters moving in machined guideways and is brought in and out of the production strip line as required.

OLYMPIA RASE4/30-2 ELECTRONIC DESK CALCULATOR

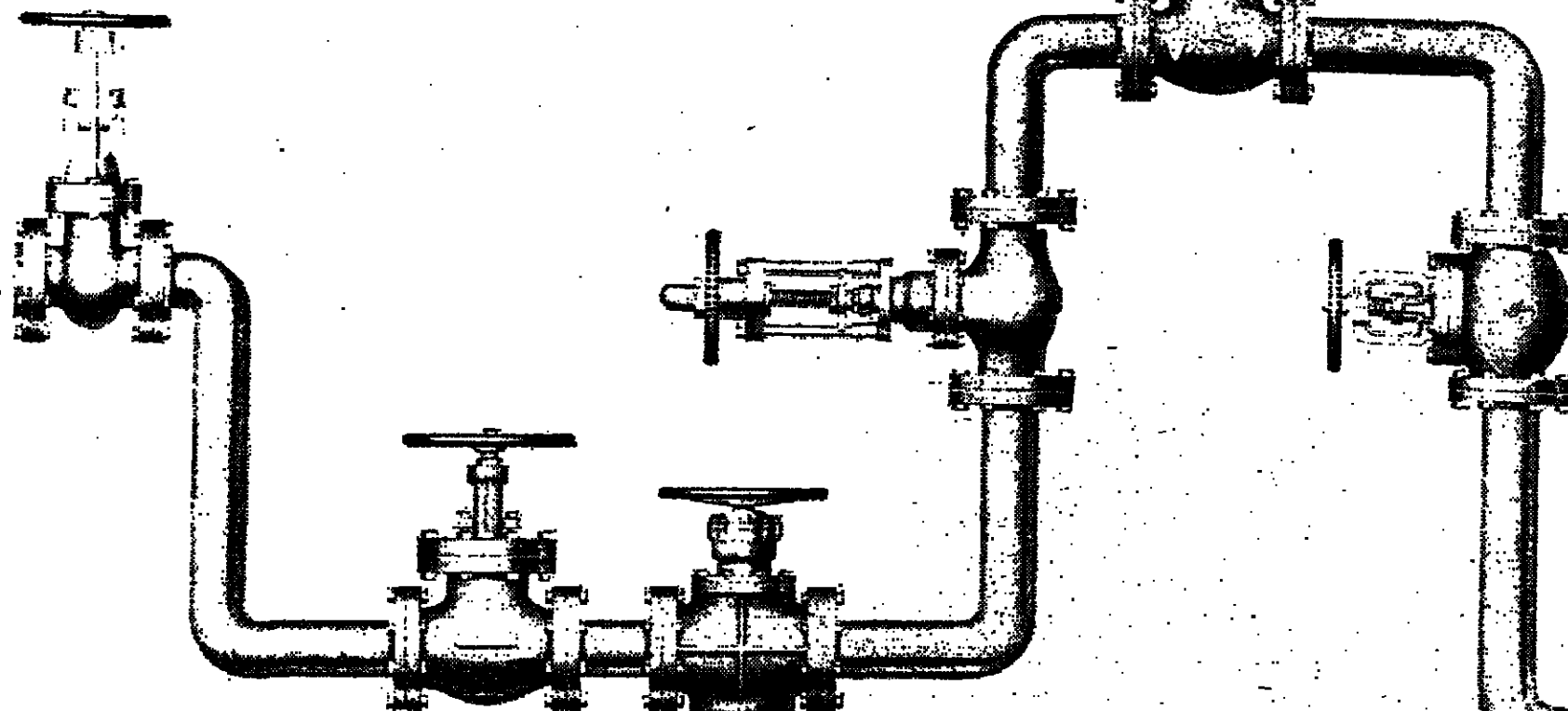
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Yes, a desk calculator that is calculated with a Silent Printing Unit. The RASE 4/30-2 provides a complete printed record in 12 steps of a calculation. It adds, subtracts, multiplies, divides. Automatic continuous calculations without re-entry. 2 storage units for accumulation or constant factors. This machine is ideal for: design, drafting, finance, insurance, stock, currency conversions, and standard deviations. Please do not hesitate to telephone for immediate attention or write to: ELECTRONIC DESK CALCULATOR COMPANY, LTD, 69 Kingston Road, Commerce Estate, Leatherhead, Surrey.



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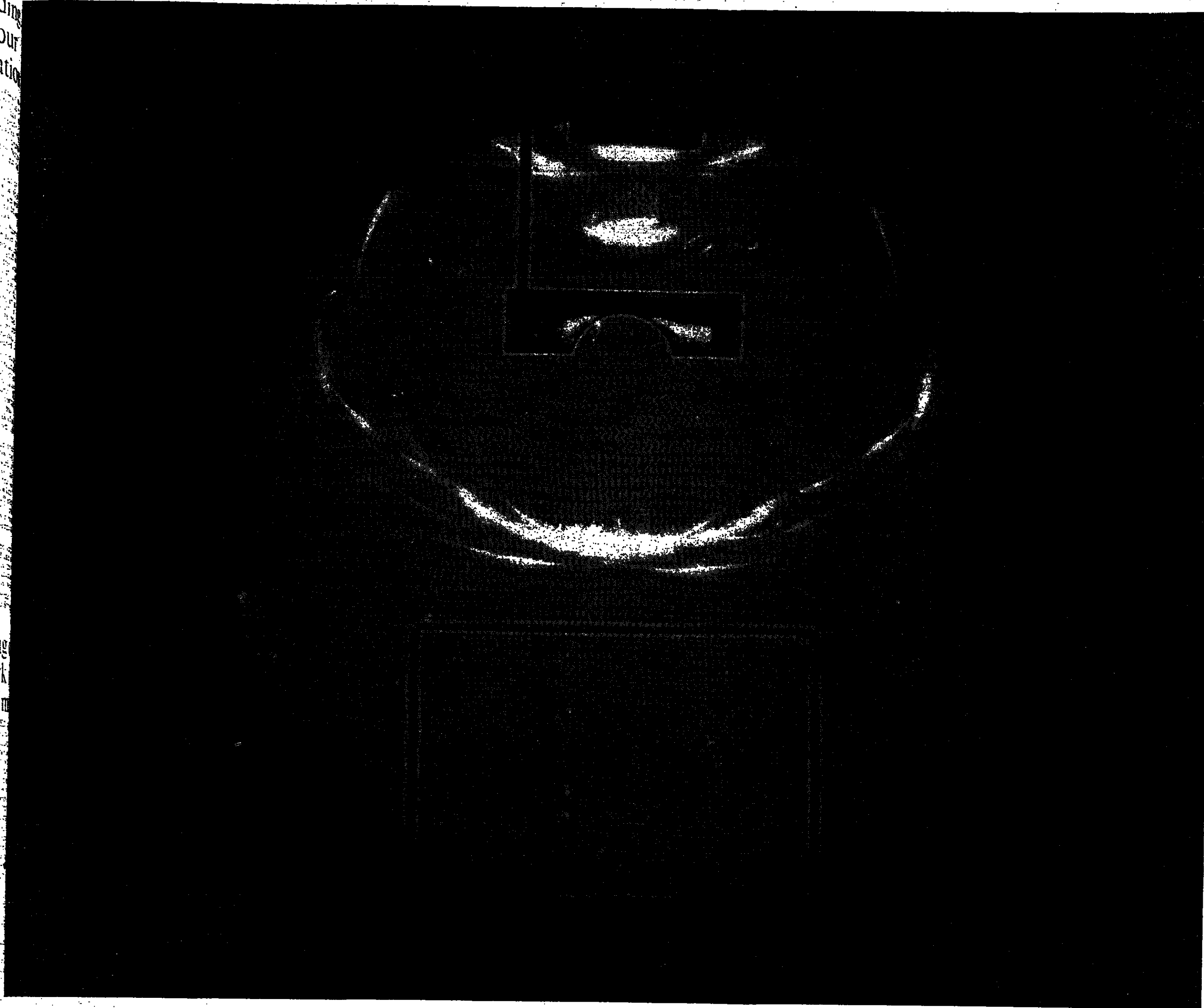


هل هذا من اللؤلؤ

Jeffingito

SOFTWARE
Speeding
the tour
operation

Moving
to work
real-time



Ultrasonic pulses in a liquid taken with the aid of Schlieren apparatus developed by TI

TI research takes a new look at ultrasound

Advanced engineering in action! Important work on the visualisation of ultrasound at the T.I. Research Laboratories, Hinxton Hall, near Cambridge, is part of a continuing programme to improve techniques for non-destructive testing of welded and seamless steel pressure tube.

Visualisation of ultrasound

The programme includes the design of a new generation of high-speed ultrasonic equipment with electronic beam steering which eliminates the need for tube rotation in testing. The two methods of visualisation developed by TI are direct pulse images using a specially-developed Schlieren apparatus, and computer plotting. Schlieren methods for detecting deviation of a parallel light beam caused by scattering, diffraction or refraction are well established. The techniques have already been used for the visualisation of continuous ultrasound in liquids. But TI research has led to the building of an ultra-sensitive Schlieren apparatus, in which pulsed ultrasound may be visualised both in water and in solids, with 'freezing' of the wave motion so that individual wavelets can be distinguished.

Glass tubes are used as models as their elastic properties are very similar to steel. In a glass block, ultrasound has been clearly recorded as separate pulses split into longitudinal and shear waves. Frequencies down to 200 kHz may be used, the wavelength of which is 25 times that used in normal ultrasonic testing. This allows dimensions to be scaled up several times so that the effects of defects as small as 0.025mm can be examined in magnified form. Computer visualisation makes use of a standard program which plots the path of ultrasound and the pulse shape. Power levels at different

points in the wave can also be indicated, so focusing efficiency can be studied, and lens design optimised. Such theoretical studies are important as complementary techniques to Schlieren visualisation.

Ultrasonic beam steering

Development of improved ultrasonic techniques and equipment for production testing of steel tubes has been a continuous process for some years at TI Research Laboratories. The main requirements are for increased speed of testing, reduced tube handling, and precision to higher standards.

The TI high speed ultrasonic tester now in use in production has 24 probes, mounted in a ring, which surround the tube. These are pulsed sequentially, and the tube is slowly rotated to provide complete circumferential scanning. This was an important breakthrough compared to the slow speed conventional rotating tube and single probe method. Theoretically, the addition of further probes up to

The ultra-sensitive Schlieren apparatus designed and built at Hinxton Hall.



Prototype high speed ultrasonic tester under development.

72 could eliminate rotation altogether for many tube sizes, but this would lead to far greater complexity in setting-up procedures. In fact, for complete 100% testing and detection of all longitudinal, transverse and intermediate angle defects, over 1000 probes would be necessary—an impossible piece of equipment for production use. Research was therefore directed at new techniques which would reduce mechanical setting-up procedures and improve thoroughness of testing to meet more stringent quality control standards.

Following computer simulation, experiments were made with a phased array of ultrasonic transducers. Electronic switching was developed so that the transducers could be electronically fired at correct time intervals relative to their distance from a desired focal point, and so contribute to a combined ultrasonic beam. This made it possible to utilise the

array as a 'distributed probe'. With a continuous circular array surrounding a tube, this focus of ultrasound from an arc of transducers can be made to travel around and through the tube, providing a 100% ultrasonic testing with no mechanical rotation of the tube or ultrasonic test head required.

Transducer firing times for the various tube sizes have been calculated by computer and probes can be set up electronically instead of mechanically when a tube size is changed. The probes were specially developed by TI and are smaller than any used before.

A complete experimental equipment has now been built comprising 90 transducers and associated electronics.

This challenging work is just one example of the many types of fundamental and applied research undertaken throughout TI—a £300 million group of over 100 companies producing both industrial and consumer goods.



1967 Coventry Gauge
1968 TI/DED
1969 Coventry Gauge
1970 Coventry Gauge
1970 Crane Packing
1971 Raleigh Industries



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Seamen strike serious blow at TUC's non co-operation policy

BY JOHN ELLIOTT, LABOUR EDITOR

A SERIOUS blow to the TUC's employees, agricultural workers and others, however, are expected to take similar decisions to strike yesterday by the National Union of Seamen which decided to remain registered and to use the new legislation in order to ensure that it can stay in business.

The problems which unions that opt instead for the TUC policy will face from staff associations is already beginning to be demonstrated with three staff organisations—two in British Insulated Callender's Cables and one in the London fire service—having been accepted on the new provision of the closed shop arrangements it has enjoyed in the shipping industry for the past 50 years.

These arrangements state that a man must join the NUS before he is employed and are outlawed from next February or March by the Act. The NUS therefore needs the protection of the "approved" closed shop provided in the Act from December for all unions will not present a solid front of defiance against the Act—many other unions having delayed policy decisions. Bank

for non-unionists, would make it impossible for unions to operate. It is assumed that the shipping employers will agree to make the necessary joint application with the NUS to the National Industrial Relations Court later this year for an approved closed shop. If, as seems likely the TUC cannot find any other solution to the NUS problem, it will have to make the best it can of the situation and try to present it as not being the beginning of the end of its policy. It could, for instance, argue that the NUS would not be going against the TUC non-co-operation policy by applying to the NIRC for a special closed shop because, since it is not in competition with any other unions in shipping, it would not be using the Act to undermine the TUC's Bridlington inter-union procedure.

The importance of the fact that some staff associations have already applied for and have been accepted on the new provisional unions' register is that it indicates they intend to consider applying for bargaining agencies under the legislation at the expense of established TUC unions. These unions will then feel that they would be better off registered, despite the TUC policy, in order to be able to fight back.

The two BICC staff associations, for example (one in BICC itself and the other in its construction subsidiary Balfour Beatty), are in competition with Mr. Clive Jenkins' Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs. Mr. Jenkins would like to remain registered and use the Act's provisions for bargaining agencies and shops, but is open to attack from the federation if it decided to apply for bargaining rights.

These cases, together with another association—the Association of Local Government Engineers and Surveyors—provide examples of the possible frustration of union recognition and the undermining of established union positions about which critics of the collective bargaining and union recognition sections of the Act have been concerned.

Meanwhile, some employers' organisations have also joined this list of organisations not previously registered but now on the provisional register. They include the Engineering Employers' Association and its Sheffield area federation, the National Union of Building Trades Employers and the Leather Producers Association.

Meanwhile, the Department of Employment yesterday confirmed that it was scrapping the two employers' and union panels of Industrial Tribunals and setting up one new panel with some 1,200 members after consultation with the CBI and other parties—such as regional Government organisations. This is a result of the TUC policy of union members withdrawing from the tribunals which has left less than 50 of the 200-strong union list available for service.

The CBI yesterday explained some of its views on the Code of Industrial Relations Practices which it had been putting to the Department. These include suggestions that management's responsibility for initiating changes in industrial relations should be stressed, that substantive matters such as pension and sick pay schemes should be excluded, and that differences between the Act and the Code should be eliminated.

Asked if this could mean an Upper Clyde-type work-in, Mr. Wright said: "We would not exclude that as a possibility."

He added that a mass meeting would be called to-day to decide on specific action.

Lynch may refer incursions to UN

BY DOMINICK J. COYLE

DUBLIN, Oct. 20.

THE POSSIBILITY of the Irish Government having recourse to the UN in the event of further incursions by British troops across the border into the Republic's territory was raised in the Dail (Parliament) here covered up, he said, behind a security smoke screen.

It came at the start of a two-day emergency debate on Northern Ireland for which TDs (MPs) had been recalled one week before the scheduled end



Mr. Jack Lynch

of the Parliamentary recess. The debate was opened by Mr. Lynch. The Prime Minister's main message was that the British Government must take early political initiatives in Northern Ireland. The troubles in the province could not be resolved by military means, including the blowing up of a number of unapproved border roads, to which

he clearly took exception. He also had a passing reference to the allegations of brutality by British troops. These obviously wanted immediate and detailed investigation, he said, not be covered up, he said, behind a security smoke screen.

Meanwhile, the police in Cork showed reporters to-day some of the weapons and ammunition discovered in six large suit-cases unloaded at nearby Cobb from the transatlantic liner QE2. The haul consisted of 7,500 rounds of ammunition, nine rifles, two pistols, some 20 grenades and a number of telescopic sights.

Police are continuing their investigations into the find, and steps are being taken to interview all passengers who disembarked from the liner at Cobb. A police spokesman estimated that these inquiries would take up to a week, but there was little confidence that passengers will be directly connected with the arms find.

In Dublin, Mr. Tomas Mac Giolla, president of the Sinn Féin faction which supports the official IRA, told newsmen that he would have been arrested by security forces in Belfast last night but for the intervention of Queen's University students. He had been speaking in a debate at the university.

Belfast reports last night said that Stormont Labour MP Vivian Simpson claimed to be empowered by Mr. Callaghan, the "shadow" Home Secretary, to say that he had tried to prevent "escalation" of the incident after being phoned by a Belfast student.

Pressure builds up on Honest Jack—Page 7; Edward Kennedy speech—Page 5

Man from CEBG to head Yorks. Board

BY DAVID WALKER

A FURTHER INDICATION that the Government is planning closer integration between the two sides of the electricity industry came yesterday with the news that Mr. Eric Booth, a full-time member of the Central Electricity Generating Board since 1959, has been appointed chairman of the Yorkshire Electricity Board.

The announcement appears to confirm that any plans there may have been for a restructuring of the industry have been indefinitely shelved by the Government, despite its intention to make radical changes in the gas industry.

There, it was revealed in August, a single authority is to be set up combining the functions of Gas Council and the area Boards. Similar changes had been expected in electricity.

Mr. Booth himself takes up the Yorkshire job from January 1, and will cease to be the CEBG member responsible for engineering from then. He succeeds Mr. Arthur Bond, whose retirement had already been announced.

Now, it looks as though personnel movement within the existing structure will be used to bring the generation and sales sides of the industry closer together, with Mr. Booth's appointment possibly followed by other cross-fertilisation between the two.

At the end of last month, Sir John Eden, Minister for Industry, stated in London that there was "no likelihood of any early changes in the structural organisation."

URGENT ACTION to tackle the problem of the increasing number of people commuting to London by rail from Kent and East Sussex was called for in a report yesterday.

The Travellers' Association joint committee reported to Kent County Council that the number of commuters will have gone up from 37,000 in 1966 to 77,000 by 1981. This view contradicts the Greater London Development Plan, which predicts that by 1981 the number of commuters would have increased by only 3,600.

The need for considerable Government capital investment in British Rail must be recognised and acted upon if Kent commuters are not to face severe travelling problems, says the report.

The Fleet Tube, if sanctioned only as far as Lewisham, would have only a marginal effect on Southern Region commuter services.

The report says 21 more main line trains in the peak hour on Kent and East Sussex commuter services in central London are expected to be needed by 1981. Some existing trains will also need to be lengthened. Considerable extra investment will be necessary, both in rolling stock and in additional track facilities.

Graphite patent extension refused

UNION Carbide Corporation of New York were refused an extension of their patent for purifying graphite for use in nuclear power stations by Mr. Justice Whitford in the High Court yesterday.

The opponents were Anglo Great Lakes Corporation, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The patent expired on August 2, 1971, and the claim was made that the patentees had received during the life of the patent, was insufficient remuneration.

The judge said the patent would not be extended because it was considered that the remuneration was sufficient in seeking revenue for their monopoly.

For Union Carbide, Mr. G. D. Everington, QC and Mr. R. C. Tarr (instructed by Macdonald, Stacey and Co.); for Anglo Great Lakes, Mr. Douglas Falconer, QC and Mr. David Young (instructed by Herbert Smith and Co.); for the Comptroller of Patents, Mr. Victor Price (instructed by the Solicitor to the Department of Trade and Industry).

CUNARD GROUP BOARD CHANGES

Pursuant to the integration of CUNARD's shipping interests within the divisional structure of the TRAFALGAR HOUSE GROUP, the composition of the Boards of the principal operating companies within the group's shipping division will be as follows as from November 1: CUNARD LINE, Mr. N. S. Thompson, chairman and managing director, Mr. R. M. Cope, Mr. R. B. Patton and Mr. R. O. P. Greig; CUNARD-BROCKLEBANK, Mr. N. S. Thompson, chairman, Mr. W. B. Slater, managing director, Mr. J. Gratton and Mr. R. O. P. Greig; OFFSHORE MARINE, Mr. N. S. Thompson, chairman, Brigadier E. P. Patterson, managing director, Captain P. A. Trace, Mr. G. Fox and Mr. D. S. Clarabutt; H. E. MOSS AND CO., Mr. N. S. Thompson, chairman, Mr. J. H. Finster, managing director, Mr. W. B. Slater and Mr. T. Swanton; ENGRAM SHIPPING, Mr. N. S. Thompson, chairman, Mr. C. K. Limsey, managing director, Mr. R. J. Simpson and Mr. D. S. Limsey.

SWISS BANK SAYS U.K. PRICES ARE RISING FASTEST

Consumer prices are rising at the rate of 10.1 per cent a year in Britain, the highest level in industrial countries, the Swiss bank, Schweizerische Kreditanstalt said yesterday.

The U.K. is followed by a 7.6 per cent rate in Holland, 7 per cent in Japan and 6.7 per cent in Switzerland.

Consideration should be given, says the report, to increasing the use of British Rail's "under-utilised London terminals such as Farringham and Euston by locating a greater proportion of future London office development near those stations."

HOME CONTRACTS John Laing wins £3.6m. redevelopment order

John Laing Construction has been awarded a £3.6m. contract for redevelopment of part of the Moss Side district centre of Manchester. The client is Ravenscroft Properties, working in conjunction with Manchester City Council. Work has just started on the site and should take 34 months to complete.

Deca radar installations costing £300,000 have been ordered by Esso Petroleum for 19 new tankers and five existing vessels.

Davy and United Engineering

Chloride sponsors battery bus to cut city pollution

BY HAROLD BOLTER, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE CHLORIDE GROUP, in co-operation with British Leyland, is trying to produce a battery driven bus, it was revealed yesterday.

Chloride Industrial Batteries, which is sponsoring the project, hopes the battery bus will provide an economic alternative to pollution in the major cities of Britain.

Mr. Len Greening, director and general manager of Chloride, explained that the group, together with British Leyland, would lay down a test bed to examine various prototypes using a variety of power sources.

The object is to produce a single-deck bus with about 30 seats and 40 standing spaces—similar to those used on London Transport's Red Arrow services—at a price competitive with conventional buses.

At present, it appears that the most likely solution to the battery-bus problem will be a hybrid power unit, using a lead-acid battery in conjunction with a diesel engine.

Further rise in value of air freight

BY MICHAEL DONNE, AEROSPACE CORRESPONDENT

THE VALUE of that proportion of U.K. overseas trade carried by air continued to rise during the first half of this year, with the value of airborne exports rising faster than that of imports.

Figures published in the latest issue of the Department of Trade and Industry's weekly Journal show that in the first six months the value of U.K. exports going by air amounted to £811.5m, or 13.3 per cent of total exports of £6,043.5m. This compared with 13 per cent (£521m) going overseas by air in the first half of 1970.

The value of imports by air, at £388m, was 13 per cent of total imports of £2,982.9m. This compared with 13.3 per cent (£396.7m) in the first half of 1970.

The DTI's "Trade and Industry Journal" says that air transport continues to be particularly important for some categories of goods, and over a third of the total value of exports and imports of hides and skins, medicinal and pharmaceutical products and metallic mineral manufactures were carried by air.

Western Europe maintained its position as the most important market for U.K. trade carried by air, accounting for 41 per cent of airborne exports and 37 per cent of imports by air, whereas North America as a whole accounted for 27 per cent of exports by air and 31 per cent of imports.

A similar pattern emerged in other steelmaking fields. Sales of universal plates and sheets rose from 1,538 tons in July-August last year to 12,338 tons this year; hoop and strip sales went up from 60 tons to 2,510 tons; and tubes and pipes sales advanced from 54 tons to 535 tons.

It is believed that in many sections of the U.K. steel market some Japanese exporters have been quoting British steel Corporation prices less 5 per cent. The British steel industry is particularly anxious that any system of voluntary restraint on sales accepted by the Japanese will be on a product rather than a tonnage basis.

In its agreement with the U.S. the Japanese steel industry accepted restraint in tons of steel, but then merely changed from exporting low value steel to steel with more added value. That agreement is now being renegotiated.

Pressure on the Japanese in the British market has come in a particularly bad time in the recession in steel demand now being experienced.

The Japanese have been keen to take a longer term look at the present situation in steel, with returns generally are felt to be far too low to support investment on a scale felt to be needed.

BSA says it will stick to its redundancy plans

NATIONAL union officials who met representatives of the BSA management in Birmingham yesterday failed to win a reprieve from planned redundancies at the Small Heath plant. A union spokesman said after the meeting that they planned to carry on fighting.

Local and national union officers had talked to senior representatives of BSA management, among them Mr. Brian Eustace, chief executive.

A management statement after the meeting said: "The company gave careful consideration to the points raised by the union representatives. It regrets nonetheless that it has no alternative to proceeding to its first phase of redundancies. It will therefore be necessary to issue first notices this week and these will involve about 1,000 people."

Under the planned reorganisation 3,000 workers lose their jobs, and main motorcycle production is transferred to Meriden, Warwickshire.

He quoted the management as saying the redundancies would be in three stages between now and December.

"This was totally rejected by the unions, who stated they were approaching the Minister for talks on a unilateral basis," he said. "They would resist the issuing of notices and would recommend their members to take whatever action necessary to preserve full employment at this factory."

Asked if this could mean an Upper Clyde-type work-in, Mr. Wright said: "We would not exclude that as a possibility."

He added that a mass meeting would be called to-day to decide on specific action.

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Queen Street moves into cash discount warehousing

QUEEN STREET Warehouse, the £5m. a year London-based furniture and credit trading group, is to open its first cash discount warehouse at Hackney, East London, on Saturday.

Yesterday Queen Street predicted the expansion programme could add £1m. a year to group turnover if successful.

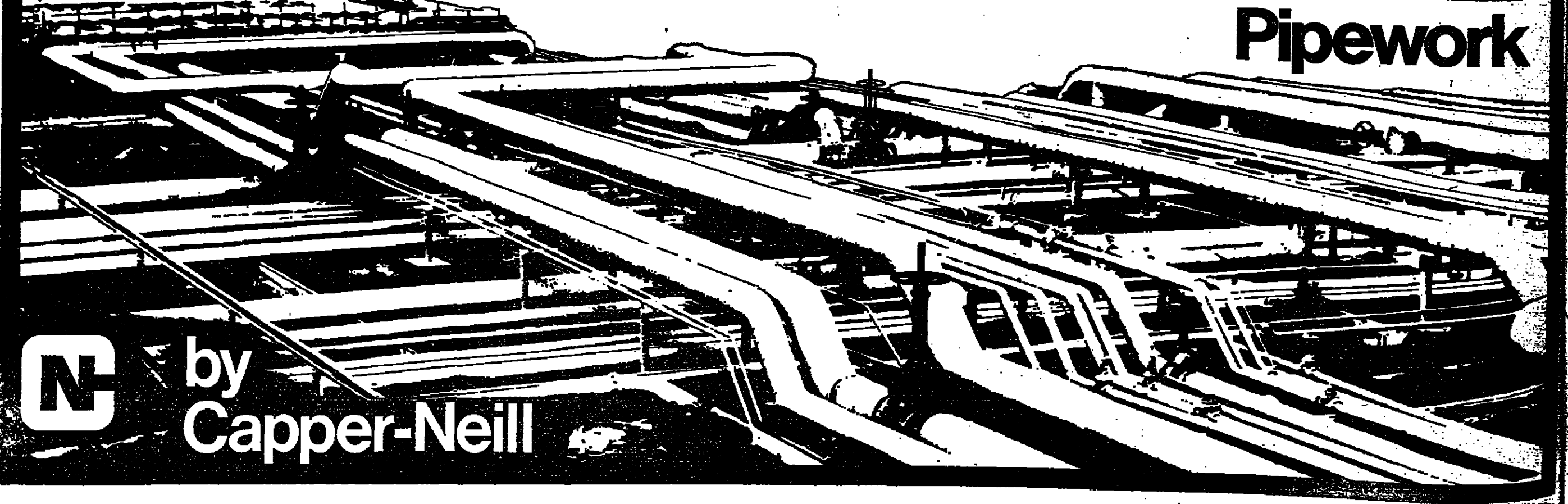
Two further discount warehouses are planned for London, also in the East End. Additional centres will be sited at existing Queen Street premises in Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds and other cities.

All will deal exclusively in men's clothing, selling two-piece suits at £20 for two and other lines at around 30 per cent below normal retail prices. Each unit will carry over 6,000 suits, jackets and trousers, and no conventional retail display or point of sale material is to be used.

MANUFACTURERS LIFE DEAL

Manufacturers Life Insurance has bought for more than £200,000 freehold interest in an office block at Amwell Street, Huddersfield (Herts.), totalling 12,000 square feet.

The vendors, Friscomand, took a leaseback on the property. They were represented in the transaction by Debenham Tewson and Chinnocks, London, E.C., who were also responsible for the recent modernisation of the premises.



Pipework

by Capper-Neil

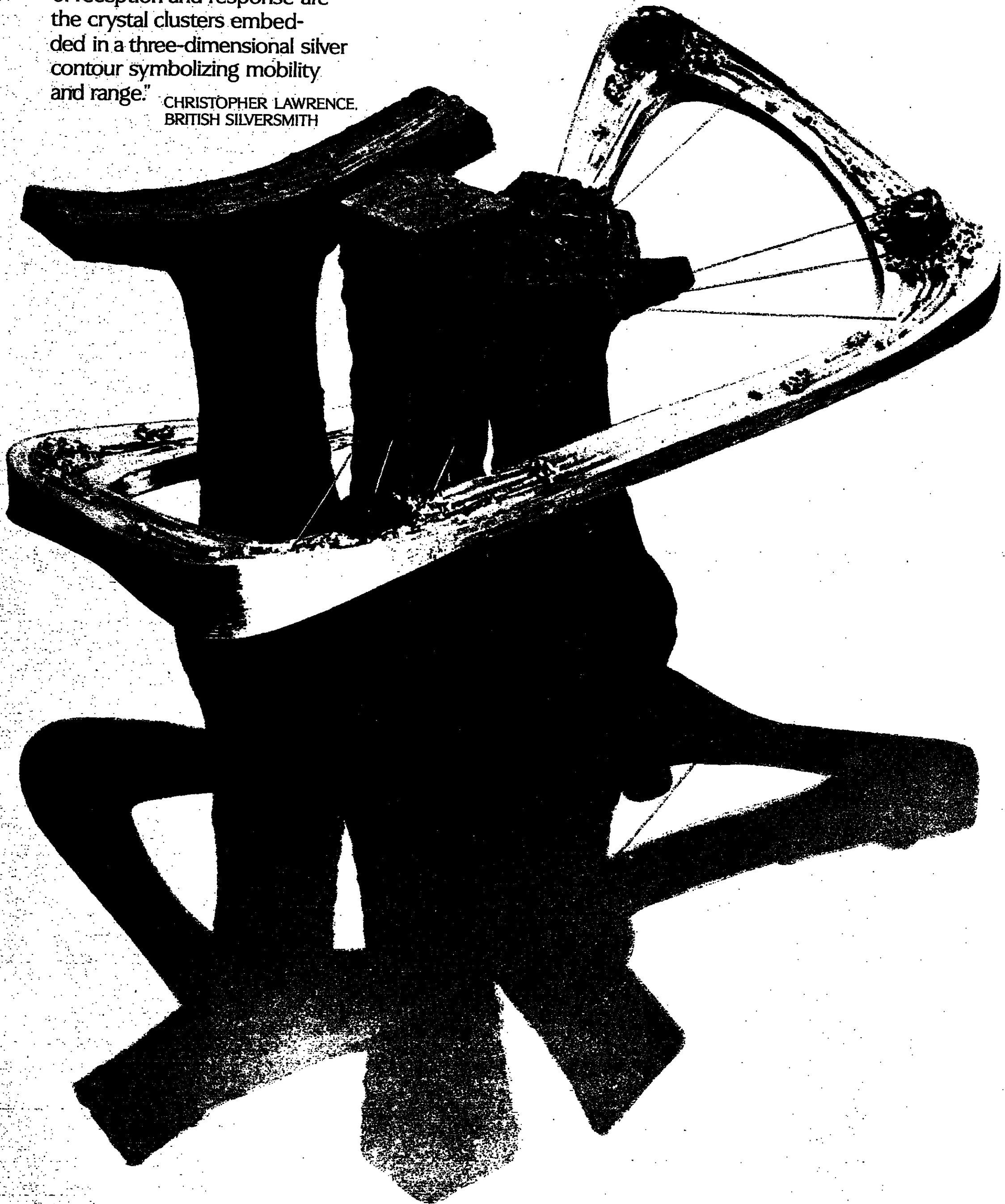
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STANDARD TELEPHONES AND CABLES

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Rockefeller proposes new approach to money crisis

MR. DAVID ROCKEFELLER, chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank, proposed last night the establishment of an international commission to study "quietly and intensively" the long-range problems arising out of the current monetary crisis, while the Group of Ten leading industrial nations act to resolve immediate problems.

The New York banker also indicated that agreement on satisfactory realignment of exchange rates "might well include a modest change in the relationship between the dollar and gold."

Bickering

Speaking to the British National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Rockefeller said he favoured creation of the international commission over a second "Bretton Woods" conference.

A large international conference held at this time, Mr. Rockefeller suggested, "might become at best a debating contest, and at worst an arena of political bickering."

Instead, he proposed a new international commission to consider redefining official national currency values in terms of a new international central bank asset, perhaps Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), reforming the role of internationally created central bank reserve bank assets, and examining the

thoroughly possible need for greater exchange rate flexibility, including advantages of widening or narrowing exchange rate margins.

Regarding a "new international currency," Mr. Rockefeller said: "There is a basic need for the world to begin moving away from both gold and the dollar standard toward a monetary system that will ensure all countries greater security and equilibrium."

He recommended that SDRs "be used not simply to supplement key currency reserves and gold but in the longer run to supplant them."

On exchange rates, Mr. Rockefeller said that coupled with the "modest change" in the dollar-gold relationship would be "assurance that nations are prepared to discuss seriously a broad restructuring of financial trade and defence mechanisms."

Along with this exchange rate realignment, "the U.S. should move to drop the import surcharge and the buy-American investment credit."

Essential

Mr. Rockefeller outlined two stages to restructure world financial and trade relationships "in a manner which will prove a lasting benefit to all concerned."

The first stage, he said, is "to restore order in the monetary system." The second is "to strive for accord on fundamental

revision of the monetary and fiscal structure," and to realise longer-term objectives by establishing the international commission.

In prescribing the removal of barriers to trade and capital flow, he said: "I don't mean to exclude my own country. The U.S. must show a willingness to negotiate reasonably on trade concessions, and not expect that all the dropping of barriers will be done by others."

"The essential point," he continued, "is to secure a consensus that a strong U.S. balance of trade position is in the best interest of all nations."

EXPORTS UP AT FORTH PORTS

Latest figures for the Forth ports covering the first nine months of the year show that total traffic at 10m tons is nearly 10m tons up on the same period last year, almost a 17 per cent increase. Petroleum products, coal, iron and steel, and fertilisers and beverages all show substantial increases.

Mr. Iain Parkin, marketing manager of the Forth Ports Authority, said exports were nearly 50 per cent up and there were indications that Scottish shippers were beginning to realise the advantages in service and convenience of trading through the Forth ports.

Feather sends MPs reminder of TUC's anti-Market line

MR. VIC FEATHER, TUC General Secretary has written to all MPs reminding them of the TUC's opposition to Britain's entry into the Common Market on the economic stagnation in Britain, the recent Congress resolution calling for a General Election before any final decision is taken.

The letter gives the following three major reasons for the TUC's policy: "First, from the end of the transitional period Britain will be contributing some 25 per cent of the Community budget and getting only 6 per cent back in return. This outcome is in our view wholly inequitable; it constitutes the central failure of the negotiations."

"This leads to the second problem—a balance of payments

cost amounting to at least £500m each year. No spokesman has challenged this figure. A balance of payments burden of this order can only mean continued economic stagnation in Britain, thus driving industrial development to the Continent, with heavier unemployment in such areas as Scotland and the North East.

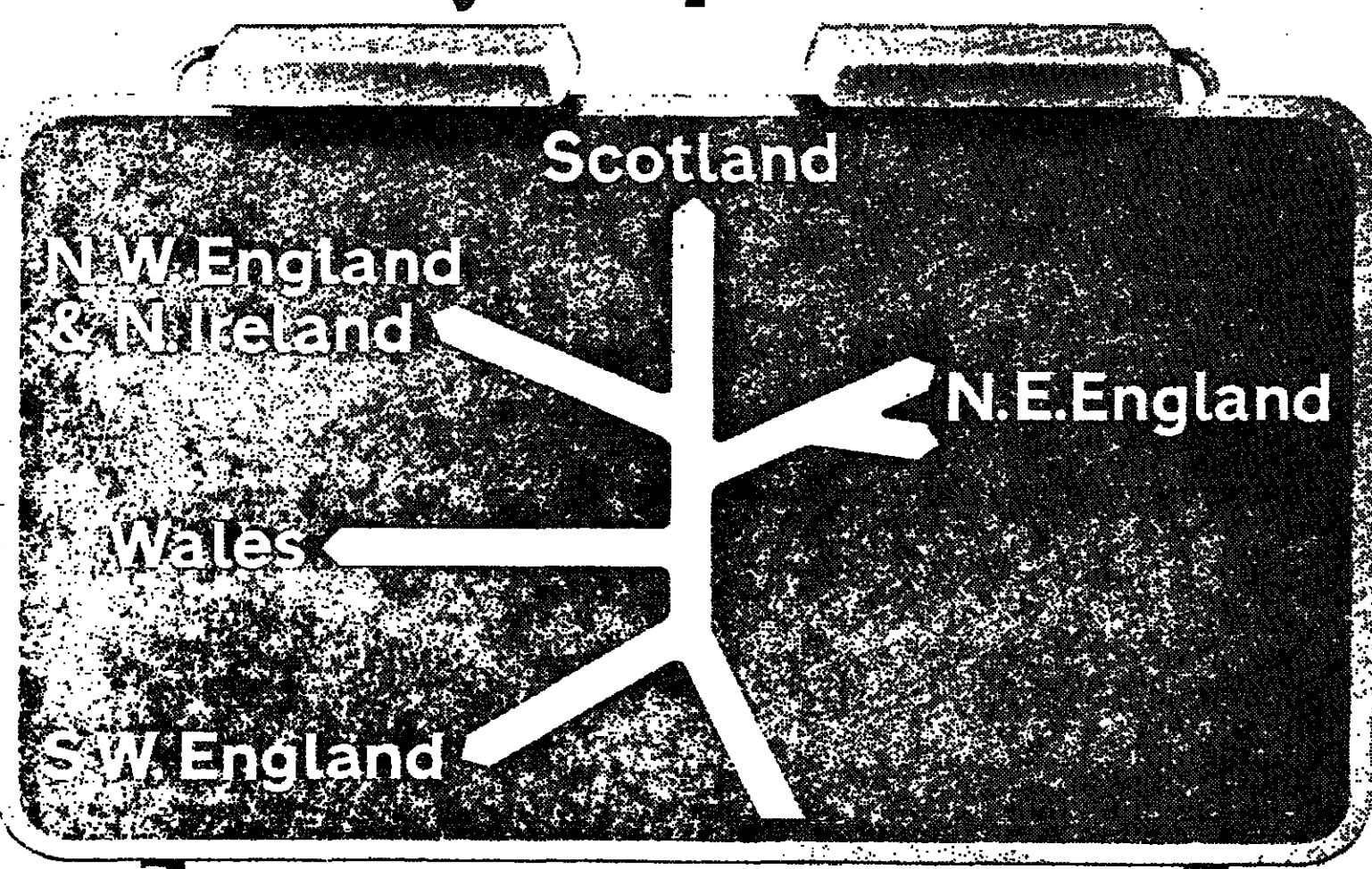
Mr. Feather adds: "The trade union movement therefore believes that entry on the negotiated terms would not be in the interests of trade unionists or the British people as a whole."

The TUC has also produced a leaflet on the Common Market for distribution by unions and local trades councils summarising the TUC's view as "better out than in on these terms." Asking whether the British people want to pay the "huge price" of entry, agricultural trade. The domestic effect of large increases in food

'Dear food'

prices will be severe hardship for the low paid and the retirement pensioners who spend a large proportion of their income on food."

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Get the facts from the Department of Trade & Industry

Settlement euphoria in Salisbury

There is growing confidence in the Rhodesian capital that prospects for a settlement with Britain are now better than ever before. Yet some Rhodesians argue that the economic case for a settlement has been exaggerated. Tony Hawkins reporting from Salisbury, Wednesday

DESPITE the cautionary noises coming from London, it is firmly believed in Salisbury that Sir Alec Douglas-Home will visit Rhodesia next month and that prospects for a settlement of the six-year-old dispute are better than ever before.

Salisbury is thick with rumour not only about the timing of the Foreign Secretary's visit but also of British officials planning to reopen their High Commission office in the capital, foreign airline representatives intriguing about plans to restore Salisbury to their international schedule, and Japanese trade missions also seeking offices in the city.

Terms

Admittedly, old Rhodesia hands who have lived through the UDI crisis and the subsequent abortive Tiger and Fearless conferences have heard all these stories before. This time, however, they are being taken a good deal more seriously, principally because it is felt that a Conservative Government is offering terms a good deal more palatable to White Rhodesia than the Tiger/Fearless formulae.

Indeed, the major newspaper group is so confident of the agreement that it has started work on a "Settlement Supplement."

British officials arrive in Salisbury on Thursday to continue the dialogue in search of a "completely watertight" situation before Sir Alec finally announces his plans to fly to Rhodesia. It is also felt a near certainty that Lord Goodman's portly figure will be seen in the streets of Salisbury again before Sir Alec arrives. In other words, it seems that there are still some important issues to be determined before the summit is held.

On the Rhodesia side, settlement euphoria has increased in the last few days following the Rhodesian Front Congress at which the threatened Right-wing rebellion failed (yet again) to materialise. There are various possible explanations for this. Perhaps the most convincing is that the rank and file of the ruling party do not believe that "good old Smithy" would ever agree to a formula that smacked

of black rule in anything under 50 years. Then there are those who say that any agreement with Britain that Mr. Smith signs will—very obviously—be capable of major amendment later.

A third explanation is that, at this stage, there is no alternative leader to Ian Smith. A very powerful Right-wing element exists both within the Front and outside it, but at this moment it is leaderless. Further, it lacks real issues on which to attack the Government. A settlement based on black rule within a few decades "would be precisely the issue which the Right-wingers would seize to establish a new party."

It seems, however, that the Right-wingers need not worry unduly at this stage. The harsh fact—though Tory politicians will be anxious to play this down—is that Mr. Smith and his Cabinet are most unlikely to have been convinced over the past year that everything they have stood for since coming to power in 1962 is untenable and must now be replaced by a return to the Whitehead-Welensky policies of gradualism and elimination of racial discrimination.

In other words, if Mr. Smith is going to agree to a deal, he will do so with his eyes open—confident that either he or his successors will be able to redress the balance in later years, returning Rhodesia to the "true" path of white supremacy.

In the meantime, there is a softening up process under way. Businessmen will tell you how Ministers and senior officials are arguing privately that this time Rhodesia simply cannot afford not to settle, largely because of the very difficult and seemingly still deteriorating balance of payments position.

Businessmen shake their heads gloomily when discussing the currency allocations outlook for the next 12 months, while industrialists warn of falling levels of stocks and inventories. Revised balance of payments figures for the first five years of UDI published last week show a broadly unsatisfactory situation. In only one of the five post-sanctions years (1969) did Rhodesia manage a surplus on current account, and this was only of the order of £2m. In the other four

years the cumulative current account deficit amounts to some £45m.

Admittedly, the post-UDI period has been characterised by substantial capital inflows (or net borrowing abroad). But as economists point out, this has not helped to ease the burden on the balance of payments in the form of loan servicing and repayment. Even when these capital inflows are taken into account, the overall external payments account since UDI is somewhat in deficit—though, to be fair, in the last two years there were surpluses on combined current and capital account.

Looking ahead, it is hard to see the current account position for 1971 being any better, and it could easily be significantly worse. This is so because of a larger volume of imports, higher import prices (partly due to rising freight costs, resulting from the Japanese and Western European and inflation in supplier countries), and lower export prices for commodities such as copper and nickel, in particular.

Furthermore, although exports have risen sharply from the trough of £111m. in 1968 to £166m. last year, they are still some 15 per cent below their 1965 pre-sanctions peak. On top of this, a further deterioration in Rhodesia's terms of trade seems probable this year.

Investment

The latest national accounts show too that while capital investment has continued its upward trend, reaching nearly £100m. last year—an increase of nearly 80 per cent on its 1965 pre-sanctions level—private sector investment actually declined last year (held back by the foreign currency shortage), while public sector investment rose by nearly 40 per cent.

Again, this is a situation which is likely to continue because the public sector capital spending has a high import content. So long as it remains at a high level, private investment (and thereby job creation) has to be confined to the domestic market.

One further figure in the national accounts makes uncomfortable reading for Mr. Smith's Government. This is the fact that during the 1960s, income per head stagnated and was virtually the same in 1970 as in 1960. True, capital inflows might increase, as might the influx of immigrants, but

of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, this is not an unimpressive performance, but the other side of the coin is that it is not exactly a solid basis upon which to try to build permanent minority white rule.

This data taken together suggests a strong case for Mr. Smith to want to settle. Against this, more and more people are beginning to argue that the economic case for a settlement has been seriously exaggerated. The now almost defunct Centre Party (which has long advocated a settlement) talks in terms of a settlement leading to massive inflows of capital and immigrants that would help solve the long-term African employment problem, while many businessmen believe that a settlement would mean an almost overnight improvement in the external trading position. In Britain, too, the Tories often argue the desirability of a settlement in terms of regaining the Rhodesian market for British exporters from the Japanese, French and West Germans.

But much of this ignores reality. A settlement would improve Rhodesia's balance of payments only to the extent of the so-called terms of trade effect (better export prices for some goods in the U.K. and U.S. markets and cheaper import costs because of the elimination of expensive import duties), plus the large gain from readmission of Rhodesian tobacco to the U.K. market.

Just how large this gain would be is highly problematical. It depends on a host of considerations such as the speed with which Rhodesian tea would be reintegrated into manufactured cigarettes, the volume of the stockpile that U.K. manufacturers would buy, and the prices they would be prepared to pay. Other export gains are likely to be minimal. This is so partly because of the physical capacity problem (the railways are unable to move the volume of traffic on offer) and partly because of the downwards trend in commodity prices.

On the debit side, the net deficit on imports would be likely to increase as releases are made from blocked funds to repatriate profits to the U.K., to service and redeem loans, and so on.

Overall, it is hard to see any dramatic improvement in the current account on the balance of payments. True, capital inflows might increase, as might the influx of immigrants, but

there is a fairly well-defined limit to the number of immigrants and the amount of capital that the economy can digest without sparking off inflationary forces and imposing an unacceptable burden on the current account in the form of higher imports. Further, capital inflows reflect a longer-term liability.

Of course, there are imponderables here too. The key is the extent and nature of the financial assistance likely to be part of any settlement formula. It is hard to see Britain not agreeing to political terms which would spark an angry reaction both domestically and abroad, also being prepared to back up with generous financial assistance, other than the African education in general and secondary education in particular.

Good grounds

In other words, there is fairly sound grounds for saying that the economic benefits of an agreement are unlikely to be anything like as great as frequently claimed. This will make selling the terms of settlement to a new era of economic success, without any great loss of conscience, a difficult task. The settlement would mark the greatest economic boom in the country has ever seen.

If this analysis is right, the economic benefits (in the short term at least) are not as attractive, one would think, as Mr. Smith and his colleagues are contemplating a deal in can only be contrary to the political convictions. The case for longer-term economic benefits hardly holds water when in Africa things change so quickly for anyone to look far ahead.

Perhaps the answer has to be seen as a combination of the African and Portuguese people, sure, concern about the defence infrastructure (civilian military aircraft, transport equipment, plant and machinery for industry, etc.) and above all the belief that the Tory tax law, the time will be better than anything offered previously, likely to be offered again.

Natwest office for Tokyo

NATIONAL Westminster Bank is opening a representative office in Tokyo to-day. Bilingual English and Japanese staff will man the office, which is in the Marunouchi district.

The representative will be Mr. Dennis Woods, 46. Mr. R. E. Elliott, a deputy chairman of National Westminster, said in Tokyo: "The progress of the Japanese economy and the growth of her international trade have been particularly notable. We in London have been tremendously impressed by the way in which the Japanese banks have kept pace with the economy and especially at the extent to which they have expanded their international operations."

WHITBREAD BOOK PRIZES AWARDED

Three authors were presented in London yesterday with the first £1,000 literary prizes awarded by Whitbread, the brewers. The biography award went to Michael Meyer for his three-volume history of Heinrich Heine. Gerda Charles took the fiction award for her novel "The Destiny Waltz." The poetry award went to Geoffrey Farnham of Leeds, for his Mercian Hymns.

Annual Statements—Continued

INCLEDON & LAMBERTS

The following are extracts from the speech of the Chairman, Mr. G. H. Incledon, at the 51st Annual General Meeting held on October 19th in London.

We are now well on with the building of the new factory for Lambert Bros. and are confident that there is a big future for this Company in the use of Plastics in the Industrial field. This move will provide increased space for Ansell Jones and Co. Ltd. who have had a very good year.

There is much optimism over the future of Durapipe and Fittings Ltd. The Company is taking full advantage of the progress being made by the manufacturers of the raw materials to produce pipes and fittings out of new materials which are opening up an ever-increasing field of opportunity to compete with conventional metals, and we are now making tools for the manufacture of pipes and fittings to metric standards.

So far as prospects for the current year are concerned, the provisional figures for the six months to 30th September last show a profit of £200,378. While it is too early to say what will happen in the next six months, I think it not unreasonable, at this stage, to forecast a substantial increase in profits for 1971-72, compared with the previous year.

DTI's first year—Davies

THIS WEEK'S issue of "Trade and Industry" carries a message from Mr. John Davies, Secretary for Trade and Industry, on the first anniversary of the establishment of his Department. He writes: "The DTI's objective, set in last October's White Paper, is to help British industry and commerce improve their economic and technological strength and to our competitiveness. Given these guidelines two consequences follow."

First, whatever the pressures, in day-to-day business we must go for viable solutions. We cannot afford short-term expedients. Unable to lead to worse trouble for workers, firms or whole regions, once the next corner is turned. "Second, we must get major policies right. They must be based on thorough consideration. At they must be such as to liberate energies, in the private and public sectors, so that the expansion in developing industry can be prelude to a new era of fast economic growth."

"At the end of its first year the Department has many achievements to its credit. But, if anything, greater importance attach to our preparations for the next phase. We have been busy with a whole range of major reviews. These include reviews of the nationalised industries and their financing, space, competition policy, summer protection and company law. In the DTI's second year these policies will start to fruition."

HALWIN'S LIMITED

	16 months to 30th June 1971	Year to 28th February 1970
Sales	£3,194,366	£1,549,558
Group pre-tax profit	£342,193	£226,060
Group profit after taxation	£210,020	£124,457
Dividend	80%	55%
Retained profit	£161,396	£92,104

*equivalent annual rate—60%

Extracts from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr. H. J. Gover:

Profits for the last six months were adversely affected by the postal strike.

We are now issuing two main catalogues per year—one for Spring/Summer, the other for Autumn/Winter. This change policy has enabled us to offer a wider selection of goods and customer reaction is very satisfactory.

Warehouse capacity has been increased—we are now utilising 90,000 square feet and, in addition, there is planning permission for a further 150,000 square feet. A pilot cash and carry operation is proposed from another warehouse.

Prospects for the current year are bright. The Directors expect to be able to recommend a dividend of at least 30% for the current year—the equivalent annual rate of 60% adjusted for the proposed one for one scrip issue.

ZETTERS POOLS LIMITED

RESULTS The following are the audited results of the Group for the year ended 31st March, 1971:—

	1971	1970
Turnover (excludes Pools Betting Tax and payments to winners) ...	£1,182,975	£1,112,731
Profit before taxation	151,159	128,700
Taxation	57,915	58,000
Profit after taxation	£ 93,244	£ 70,700

DIVIDENDS The directors recommend a final dividend of 20% (1970 17½%).

CHANGE OF NAME With diversified activities now contributing substantially to group profits, it has been decided that a change of name to ZETTERS GROUP LIMITED will be appropriate.

THE FUTURE Both pools and bingo have made an excellent start to the year and subject to no abnormal events we look forward confidently to record new profits.

London Metal Exchange

FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY

Depressed conditions limit progress

by JOHN EDWARDS

The past year has not exactly been one of achievement for the London Metal Exchange. Mirror, as always, the state of the world's non-ferrous metals market, prices on the Exchange have been acutely depressed, and business has been slow from brisk.

There has been much talk about possible new markets, and changes in existing contracts for a silver market in particular, but so far it has been just talk. The Metal Exchange committee is applied to the Bank of England for permission to start an aluminium futures market, but it is still far from certain that an aluminium contract will be introduced. Although theoretically aluminium is a "natural" for the Metal Exchange, as the biggest added non-ferrous metal in tonnage terms, there are formidable problems to be overcome in establishing a futures market. First, and foremost, is the insurmountable opposition of the producers, much smaller in number than with most other metals and consequently exercising much more control over world supplies.

Hostile attitude

A strong physically based market of the kind that the LME has established so well in copper must have an assured equate supply of aluminium. It is to succeed, and the hostile attitude of the producers would mean having to rely solely on some East European aluminium can fulfil a useful role. With the relative failure of the LME silver market so far, the Exchange's reputation could not stand a "flop."

Even less promising are the prospects for other new markets, such as nickel or the minor metals. The New York nickel futures market, started last year, has not proved a success. The LME might well be able to establish a better nickel market, but the producers are sufficiently dominant to oppose anyone else trying to decide prices. The lack of volume and difficulty in establishing agreed quality standards also makes viable markets in minor metals unlikely.

Pricing basis

Balked in expanding into new areas, the LME is facing some threats to its established markets. The steep decline in prices of lead, for example, has triggered off moves by certain primary lead producers to introduce a fixed producer price to replace the LME settlement quotation as a pricing basis. It is argued that the LME lead values have been artificially depressed by the surplus of supplies dumped on the market by secondary lead refiners, whose costs are totally different from primary mine producers. There is little doubt that most lead producers, who have already successfully established a fixed quotation for zinc, would like to do the same for lead, but the huge importance of uncontrollable scrap lead is likely to undermine any producer price, as happened with copper. Nevertheless, although a producer quotation may not be practicable, there is a strong desire to get away from LME quoted prices, which

may be translated into some sort of action in the future.

The same applies to copper. The lower prices go—and the surplus of supplies seems likely to last for some time yet—the more producers, especially the developing countries, seek ways to establish a reasonable, economic, steady price not subject to the violent day-to-day fluctuations often caused by technical market considerations or speculative coups. At the moment the Council of Copper Exporting Countries (Cipec) appears to be in disarray, with little agreement among its members on what action to take, if any, for stabilising prices. But low prices are a powerful inducement for agreement, so some new way of controlling copper values cannot finally be ruled out.

With the International Tin Council exercising overall control on the tin market, and an established producer price for zinc, any moves to lessen the importance of the copper and lead Exchange markets would have serious consequences on the future prosperity of the LME.

One of the major criticisms of the Exchange is that speculators play too important a part in deciding the price that industry has to pay for its metals. In the present conditions of poor demand, when industry trading is at a low ebb, the Exchange is especially vulnerable to speculators assuming a more dominant role since they are providing the bulk of business at times. It is significant that the New York copper market, very much dominated by speculators, is at present tending to call the tune



The Ring of the Exchange.

members (that is companies allowed to trade in the ring). Although the rule that only U.K. companies can actually be ring-dealing members still applies, the LME is well aware that on some occasions U.K. companies are formed solely to enable an overseas parent company to trade in the ring. Two recent members are West German and U.S. controlled companies, and shortly the first Japanese-owned subsidiary is expected to be approved for ring-dealing membership. A big Canadian producer—formerly an implacable critic of the LME—has also acquired a 50 per cent stake in one of the leading broking companies.

The increasingly international nature of the Metal Exchange is an important part of its future development. Delivery depots in Japan, Australia and the U.S. are one suggested future development to broaden the scope of trading on a world basis, for example.

EEC controls

The need to expand internationally is all the more important at present with Britain's likely entry into the EEC. Because of the EEC controls on imports of various metals, including lead and zinc in particular, there could be considerable difficulties over the operation of the LME warehouse system. At the moment the U.K. delivery points provide a loophole, for example, to overcome the EEC restrictions on imports of lead and zinc from Eastern European countries, with which it has special trading agreements, but as a member of the enlarged Community Britain would be subject to the same restrictions and possible import quota controls.

Negotiations are going on with Brussels to find an acceptable formula to retain the Metal Exchange's unique standing in the world's non-ferrous metal trade. But stronger links with countries outside the EEC as well may be vital to ensure the LME can continue to play a world role in the years ahead.

of London prices, and there is no doubt that the speculative-minded Americans are channeling considerable sums of money onto the Exchange to influence prices. It reached such a stage in June that the LME committee felt constrained to issue a special warning to its members about the dangers of excessive speculation harming the long-term interests of the market, whose distinguishing feature is its close involvement with the day-to-day activities of the physical metals trade. In fact the warning was not so much aimed at the LME members, who are well aware of the situation but hardly likely to turn away business during these depressed times, but to provide a public assurance to producers and consumers that the LME was worried about the activities of speculators and would take action to curb them if the situation got out of hand. One way in which the scope of the Exchange is being broadened and strengthened is the addition of new ring-dealing

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE II

The advantages of 'hedging'

By ALAISTAIR BARLOW, Partner, M. C. Brackenbury & Company

A few years ago there existed, in many parts of the world, companies directly involved in the non-ferrous metal industry who used to think that the LME was a market where innumerable faceless speculators caused troublesome and needless price fluctuations to occur at their expense. To-day they know better. The increasing use of the LME as a source of supply, or willing buyer of physical metal, together with its continuing function as the pricing mechanism for most international and much internal trade has resulted in a much wider recognition and use of the hedging facilities offered by the market. There are still companies who think that a hedge is something that can be carried out as a last resort when all else fails. Too often this has led to a less than satisfactory result, though this cannot be wondered at since the initial approach was, in effect, a salvage operation. There are even companies who believe that a hedge has inevitably been a failure if it has not resulted in a trading profit on the LME! However, in general, to-day's hedgers well understand the technical intricacies, including those relating to backwardations and contangoes.

Forward purchase

For the few remaining uninitiated: a hedge is a forward purchase, or sale, on the LME which balances a company's trading book by offsetting an otherwise vulnerable position in physical metal. For example, a supplier may have a customer who wishes, without delay, to price his next three months' requirements. The supplier may not have sufficient stock to cover the order, in which case, he complies with his customer's request, he will find himself losing money when prices rise and making money when they drop. This speculatively may not suit him at all, so he must himself buy forward to balance his book and avoid speculation. The easiest way for the supplier to achieve this is to buy forward on the LME sufficient weight of metal to offset the obligation to his customer. Later, in the normal course of his business, he will sell the material that will be purchased for delivery to his customer. As soon as the material has been purchased he will cease to need his LME position and must sell it out without delay.

The benefits of the system are manifest — the customer is happy and the supplier is more than happy since he has completed business which, lacking the hedging facility, he would have hesitated to undertake. There are, however, technical considerations which only become apparent when prices are taken into account. To illustrate this, let us suppose that the transaction is in copper and that the supplier has agreed to let his customer price his requirements. Let us say that at the time LME prices were: cash, the settlement price, £413 per ton and the three month price, £421 per ton. What happened?

1. The supplier consented to price say 150 tons for the customer at the settlement price, £413.
2. The supplier bought 150 tons three months LME at the close of the second morning ring, £421.
3. Then, say, one month later, after a £20 price rise: The supplier buys 150 tons material at the new settlement price, £433, and sells his LME position (now only two months forward) at the going price which would be £438.50.
4. Later the supplier will deliver material to his customer at the previously agreed price, £413.

The supplier has lost £20 per ton on his physical trading and he has gained only £17.50 per ton from the LME. Had prices fallen £20 instead of rising, then the supplier would have gained £20 on his physical business and lost £22.50 on the LME. In each case there is £2.50 per ton that price his next three months' requirements. The supplier may not have sufficient stock to cover the order, in which case, he complies with his customer's request, he will find himself losing money when prices rise and making money when they drop. This speculatively may not suit him at all, so he must himself buy forward to balance his book and avoid speculation. The easiest way for the supplier to achieve this is to buy forward on the LME sufficient weight of metal to offset the obligation to his customer. Later, in the normal course of his business, he will sell the material that will be purchased for delivery to his customer. As soon as the material has been purchased he will cease to need his LME position and must sell it out without delay.

The supplier would normally cover this risk at the outset by cash price from his customer in exchange for the privilege of immediately pricing his forward requirements. Should a supplier be reluctant to entertain the idea of immediate pricing, then the customer should remember that there is nothing to stop him achieving precisely the same result by trading on the LME himself while awaiting the opportunity to price with his supplier. Later, there have been inquiries from consumers wishing to price requirements up to a year ahead. If suppliers are unwilling to meet such demands, it is perfectly practical for the consumer to realistically cost

out and evaluate his own hedging programme to cover the situation. Some allowance must be made for settling LME differences on maturing hedges. This allows the consumer to enter into fixed price 12 months contracts with his own customers with confidence. This exercise has concerned itself solely with the need for putting a price on forward requirements, and as such is normally referred to as "price fixing." However, balancing a short book by price fixing on the LME is not the only need that arises in the metal trade. Unsold stocks of metal produce the opposite situation—that is a long book which can only be squared by making an offsetting sale for an equal weight of metal.

Hard to make

Perhaps, through lack of consumer demand, the sale is hard to make via normal outlets. Pending a revival of interest from these normal outlets a forward sale on the LME will provide an immediate and effective substitute. For instance, inventory may be purchased in anticipation of orders, but this is a dangerous speculation by the stockholder—what will he say to his shareholders if prices fall and a nasty loss impairs, quite unnecessarily, an otherwise impeccable balance-sheet?

Using the same prices as were used to illustrate price fixing, we can see what would have happened to the stockholder if he had immediately hedged his stock by selling, three months on the LME.

1. The stockholder buys metal at the LME settlement price of £413.
2. The stockholder immediately sells three months on the LME as a hedge at £421. One month later when prices are £20 lower:
3. The stockholder sells stock to his normal outlets at the ruling LME settlement price of £393 and also buys back his no longer needed LME sales (now only two months forward) at the going rate £398.50.

The results for the stockholder would have been as follows. A loss of £20 per ton on his physical material and a profit of £22.50 from the LME. (If prices had gone up £20 instead of down then his physical material would have attracted a profit of £20 against an LME loss of only £17.50). The £2.50 contango that affected his

LME position during its one month duration has accrued to the stockholder's benefit.

As in the case of price fixing there are other more complex situations which the sell hedge can be used for. But at this point, it is convenient to point out that a contango will always accrue to the benefit of a selling hedge and to the detriment of a price fixing operation. (The reverse is true when a market is at a backwardation—cash higher than forward.) Having stated this, two questions arise. First, will a violent change in the size of a contango—or even its becoming a backwardation—affect the reliability of the hedge or price fix? The answer is no: provided the physical transaction continues to be priced on the LME cash settlement there is no need to be concerned about changes in the contango that take place subsequently to the hedging trade being effected on the LME.

The second question is whether it matters how long a period elapses between hedging and negotiating the final transaction which causes the hedge position to be immediately liquidated? The answer, in this case, is yes: the longer a sell hedge is held the greater will be the contango that accrues to the benefit of the hedge. Similarly the shorter the time that a price fixing position is held then the smaller will be the detrimental effect of the contango, but in each case the maximum possible gain, or loss, is determined by the size of the contango ruling at the onset.

Risk-free profit

Where possible, physical business should be transacted in such a way as to allow hedging transaction to gain the benefit of any risk-free profit that could accrue from the contango or backwardation.

All sections of the non-ferrous metal industry can usefully hedge. But whether they are consumers, brassmakers, fabricators, merchants or scrap merchants, refiners or smelters, in the broadest sense, they are all acting either as suppliers or stockholders. So that, to a large extent it is possible to generalise about their use of the LME without identifying particular functions within the industry. Some have special advantages or disadvantages. Any organisation trading in LME-registered brands of metal can always allow a hedge to mature and, in effect, treat the hedge as a straightfor-

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EEC entry would be welcomed

By F. F. WOLFF, Chairman of the Committee, London Metal Exchange

The LME views the prospect national business and clientele of Great Britain entering the Dealings in Chile bar copper, Common Market with complete and Straits tin were under confidence. The very nature of taken from the outset, and by the Exchange, and of the com-

modities traded there, makes it found its ultimate destination an organisation with an inter- with consumers in this

country. A brisk entrepot trade has always been one of the main activities of members of the LME and this has been expanded to cater for producers and consumers in a great number of locations, in both hemispheres and in countries with widely differing ideologies and economies.

Granted therefore that entry into the EEC poses no problems in principle to the LME, there are naturally many matters of detail and procedure that have to be dealt with. As an example while the underlying principle of the Community, as expressed in the Treaty of Rome, is that there shall be free and unfettered interchange of commodities among its members, there are certain regulations as to tariffs and quotas affecting some goods imported into the EEC. While they are not onerous, nor constituting insuperable obstacles, the tariffs (and their mode of operation) will of necessity involve some modification of the LME contracts in lead and zinc.

These two metals are at present subject to certain tariffs in respect of imports into the Community; and in the case of zinc there is the added complication of tonnage limitations being placed on the import of eastern bloc metal as a result of various bilateral agreements between Comecon and EEC countries.

Tariff effects

We in the U.K. will have to subject ourselves to the effects of tariffs and duty-free or reduced-duty quotas in lead and zinc, along with our partners in the Community, which will be different in their amount and their application from the system we have been following—itself a relic from the days of Empire preference.

All this is detail rather than principle, and if it requires modification to our contracts in certain respects, it in no sense detracts from the anticipation of an enlarged "domestic market." This in itself raises two further, and important matters: a possible increase in the number of delivery points

Continued on next page

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE III

Prices remain low

On this and the next page JOHN EDWARDS outlines the current supply and demand situation for the metals traded on the Exchange.

ZINC

Zinc is one of the few base metals whose price has actually risen in the past 18 months. This is not because zinc has not suffered like the rest from depressed demand and surplus supplies, but because its price is fixed by producers, who to a certain extent are able to defy the free market trends. In fact zinc was one of the first metals to be hit by the recession in the U.S. economy, and a further body blow was administered by the General Motors strike at the end of 1970. In the U.S., particularly, where zinc is used much more by the car industry than in Europe, consumption is very sensitive to industrial conditions generally and is a good indicator of the likely future trends for other metals. However, although zinc prices have shown definite signs of firming in recent months, and surplus stocks are falling rapidly, this has been caused more by severe cutbacks in production both in America and Europe, which are now beginning to have an effect.

The cutbacks started in the U.S., where stocks of zinc built up to alarming levels despite several price reductions. Producers argued that it was better to reduce production rather than continue output at uneconomic levels, but for a time they were doing both until the stockpiling in front of the threatened U.S. steel strike, which was later averted, relieved the pressure by bringing a temporary surge in demand.

Production cutbacks

Outside the U.S. a decline in price, following the example set by U.S. producers, was only avoided by a series of production cutbacks started in 1970 and intensified in early 1971 when the General Motors strike completely demoralised the market. With many smelters selling at discounts well below the fixed producer quotation of the time, and producers generally suffering heavy losses, it was felt that a price cut simply could not be afforded however

it might have been justified by circumstances. In the event the producers' decision to hold on was a wise one. By May production had been cut sufficiently to remove much of the surplus and the producers were able to raise their fixed quotation from £127.95 to £150 a metric ton—the first rise for about 18 months, a period when costs of production had increased dramatically.

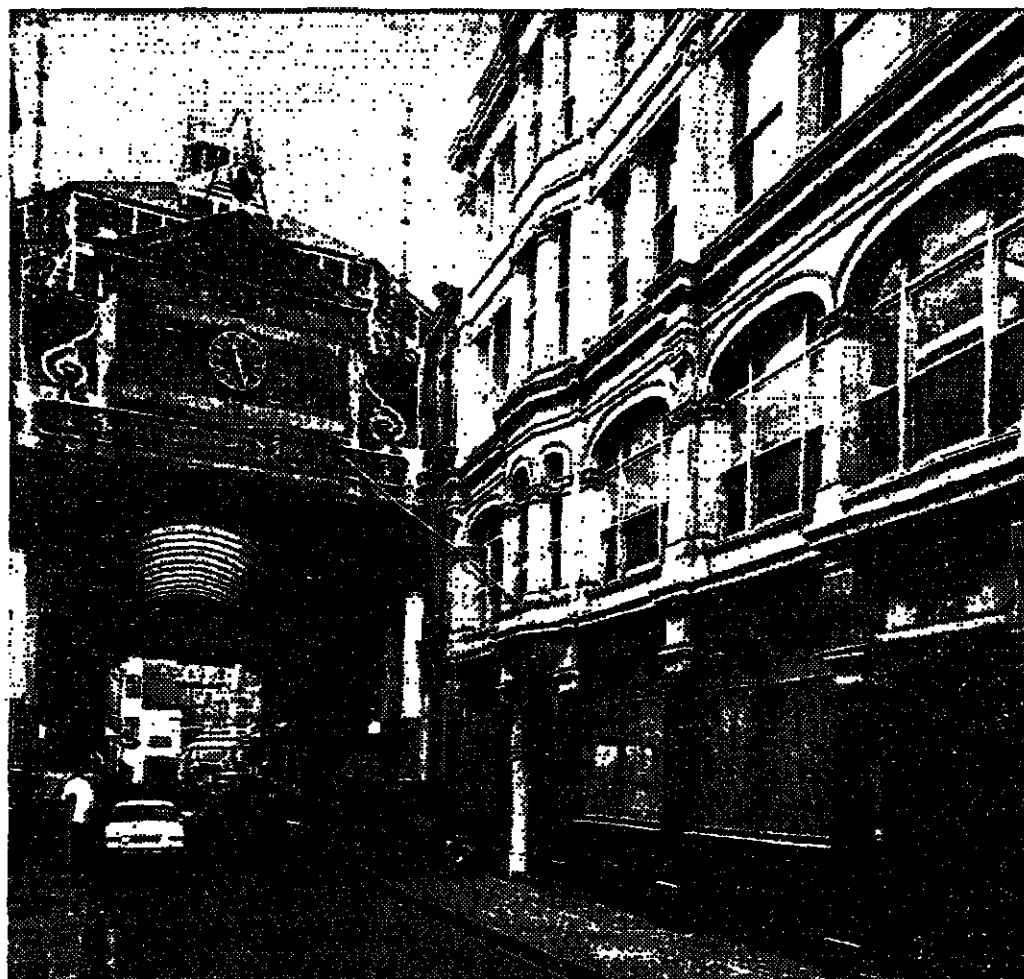
Even with the big increase in price, some producers feel that an uneconomic price is being charged and that they are still suffering from a desire to stabilise the market that meant not taking full advantage of the boom period in 1968/69. Be that as it may, the fact is that the new price of £150 a ton is being heavily discounted on the Continent, and at one time the LME cash quotation was as low as £120 a ton—an unheard of discount of £30 a ton. LME values have recently come shooting up, with the revival of some demand and delay in shipments of fresh supplies to LME warehouses, but "free" zinc is still available at a considerable discount to the fixed producer quotation.

One of the problems confronting the LME market is that, because of the different charges

made by Continental ports compared with Britain, the bulk of the zinc stocks has found its way to the Rotterdam warehouse, where it is cheaper to put zinc in but more expensive to take it out.

Since it is "seller's option" in LME dealings, any buyer is faced with having to take delivery from the Rotterdam warehouse, so the price he is willing to pay must take into account the high cost of removing and transporting it. An additional complication is that the European Common Market not only has quotas limiting the amount of its total zinc imports but also has special restrictions on supplies from Eastern European countries with which it has specific trade agreements. Although there is believed to be unsatisfied demand, especially on the Continent, for some higher quality grades of zinc, there does not appear to be any great improvement in consumption generally. Indeed the consumption figures still make gloomy reading.

However, once consumption does start to pick up, the sharp cutbacks in production, with many plants closed down never to open again, could well mean that a shortage of zinc could develop temporarily at least in the not too distant future and the producers' hopes of higher prices be realised.



The Exchange has been established in its present premises in Whittington Avenue at the entrance to Leadenhall Market since 1882.

LEAD

A bid by some primary lead producers recently to try to introduce a fixed producer price, instead of basing prices on the London Metal Exchange cash quotation, is ample evidence of the depressed state of the market at present. Lead prices on the LME are at the lowest level for some four years or so, and lead, at £90 a ton, has lost a good deal of ground to its sister metal zinc, at £150 a ton, bearing in mind that in the past lead has often been more expensive than zinc.

Consumption of lead has not been hit as hard as other metals by the general economic malaise, however. Its main outlet is in batteries, which are constantly required in cars, for example, whether the car is old or new.

But, on the present pricing method, only a small surplus is required to depress the market, and there have been sufficient supplies available, especially from secondary refiners, to overwhelm the support buying efforts of producers to keep the price of lead at a surprisingly high level, with the coming on stream of the big

Minnesota plant in the U.S. boosting American output in particular. Lead refining is less expensive in investment terms than that for zinc, so the cost pressure forcing cutbacks in output has not been so great.

Future threatened

At the same time lead has been depressed by the threat to its future posed by the anti-pollution moves in the U.S. and elsewhere aimed at removing lead additives from petrol. The anti-knock compounds represent total lead sales, but they are a far bigger percentage in the U.S. In addition petrol is one of the few outlets for lead where there is virtually no scrap recovery and mainly the top quality grades are used.

Argue as they may that lead is being unfairly labelled as the pollution villain, most producers are now resigned to losing a big proportion of this valuable market in the years ahead. It is true that the anti-pollution policy may also bring increased demand for lead in batteries, but the high scrap recovery pos-

sible from batteries means that the scrap industry and secondary refiners are likely to benefit most from this, not the primary producers. It is the "distorting" of the LME price by secondary supplies, which have a different cost structure to primary output, that is the chief motive behind moves by producers to establish a fixed quotation. However, the presence of an ever-increasing pool of uncontrollable scrap supplies has made other producers oppose a fixed quotation as unworkable, and this attitude now seems likely to win the day.

Britain's likely entry into the Common Market, with the possible problems over import quotas and warehouse deliveries, may give the producers an opportunity to try to introduce some new pricing structure. In the meantime, however, they will just have to wait for the natural steady growth in consumption of lead to catch up again with supplies, slowed down by the low prices. With the anti-knock petrol market in the balance, however, it could be a long wait before there is another booming lead market.

TIN

A steady decline has taken tin prices to the lowest level since April, 1969, recently and fairly close to the "floor" of £1,350 a ton fixed under the International Tin Agreement. In fact the present cash price of around £1,400 a ton is only being sustained by support buying by the buffer stock of the International Tin Agreement, but it has plenty of resources at its disposal to prevent any further erosion in values. At last week's meeting of the International Tin Council authority was given to call up further instalments of the total contribution of the cash equivalent of 20,000 tons of tin pledged by the producing countries to finance the buffer stock. An initial contribution of 7,500 tons of tin was made at the start of the Fourth Tin Agreement in July, but a big proportion of this was spent immediately on buying up the 2,662 tons carried over by the buffer stock from the Third Agreement at the current price then of around £1,440 a ton. Since then the buffer stock has had to buy a fair amount to hold prices just above £1,400. It, therefore, makes sense that the second contribution of 7,500 tons should be easily available if required.

Buffer stock

For the producing countries, most of whom are developing areas, the financing of the buffer stock has been made much easier by the agreement of the International Monetary Fund to advance the necessary funds. At the same time an important change in the Fourth Agreement is that the buffer stock is now allowed to operate (that is buy and sell) in the lower and upper price ranges where previously it was allowed either only to buy in the lower sector or sell in the upper sector. This means that the buffer stock does not need to worry about over-supporting the market by buying up too much, because it can now dispose of surplus holdings back onto the market without having to wait for prices to rise to the upper sector.

At the moment the supply/demand position for tin seems to be fairly evenly balanced with a slight surplus as a result of consumption being at a low ebb, especially in the U.S. where tinplate is losing ground to rival materials and industrial activity is depressed.

As a result for the moment at least the producing countries have been unable to press their case for another rise in the tin price ranges under the Agreement.

Continued on next page

EEC entry — (Cont'd)

Continued from previous page position to bring further business to the market.

Though not, strictly speaking, directly an effect of our likely entry into the EEC, value added tax ought to be taken into this particular reckoning. Its advent is undoubtedly with EEC membership and subsequent harmonisation in mind. Here, from the standpoint of the LME, much new ground has had to be broken. While various continental countries have operated VAT for some time, none of them possesses a market remotely comparable to the LME, and the impact of the tax on the Exchange has to be considered as something without precedent. In a sense, to be able thus to start from scratch rather than be faced with a problem of adaptation, has been

an advantage to those on the management of the LME who have been studying the matter. A complete exercise has been undertaken, and the effect of various possible alternative VAT arrangements worked out over the whole range of LME activities.

Through the British Federation of Commodity Associations and the British Non-Ferrous Metals Federation, who have themselves been conducting investigations on behalf of their members, we have kept abreast not only of the thinking of other commodity markets, but of that of producers and consumers dealing through the LME. Representatives of HM Customs and Excise, who are to administer the tax, have been consulted and have proved to be extremely helpful and constructive in their approach. All in all, the introduction of this entry.

Notwithstanding the introduction of VAT, the acceptance of Common Market tariffs on lead and zinc, or any other consequences of Britain's entry, the prime functions of the LME have to be carried on without distortion or limitation.

Thus, as a physical market, a medium for hedging physical contracts and an impartial indicator of prices, the Exchange must continue to operate as freely as before. There is no insuperable obstacle to this.

entailed in our entering the Community. Indeed, there may well prove to be consequential advantages to all concerned, between the LME bridging the gap between the EEC merchants and consumers and the producers and merchants in other areas to a fuller extent than we have previously known.

Other areas

With so much of the metal traded on the LME and so many of the interests which use the market directly or indirectly as a pricing medium, coming from areas other than the EEC it is clearly of great importance that nothing so affects the LME as to lessen its effectiveness in a global sense. This essentially has been very much in mind during all our talks and deliberations so far, and will of course remain so as we take whatever steps are necessary on

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COPPER

The failure of the U.S. economy to revive, which has depressed industrial demand for metals all over the world has been the underlying factor throughout the past year. There were predictions at the end of 1970 that 1971, or at least the second half of 1971, would be the time for recovery after the decline of consumption in 1970. But these optimistic hopes have not been fulfilled so far, and predictions that surplus supplies of copper are likely to last until 1975 are looking the more likely to be correct.

One big uncertainty about

to stop work at the expiration of their contracts at the end of June, since the main union involved had already agreed terms with aluminum and canning workers.

Copper dispute

In fact the U.S. copper workers' strike did not last long, although some disputes were not finally settled until the end of September, and only an estimated 150,000 short tons of mine output were lost, although with smelters closed, too, the total loss of refined metal was believed to be nearer

In fact the U.S. copper workers' strike did not last long, although some disputes were not finally settled until the end of September, and only an estimated 150,000 short tons of mine output were lost, although with smelters closed, too, the total loss of refined metal was believed to be nearer

300,000 tons.

There were no other major strikes, but the expected huge increase in Chilean output failed to materialise. The nationalisation of the Chile mines, previously owned by U.S. companies, caused considerable disruption, with an exodus of the top technical and management staff. Other technical troubles and natural causes, including an earthquake, meant that Chile found difficulty in filling some rather optimistic forward sales made at the end of 1970.

Zambian copper output was also cut by the much reduced production at the big Mulidira mine as a result of the mudslides there in the early months of 1969. Peruvian mines were hit by a series of strikes which seriously disrupted production for several months. In Japan there was a deliberate cutback by the copper smelters to avoid the steady build-up in surpluses stocks caused by sluggish domestic

demand and the difficulty of selling them on outside markets without forcing world prices even lower.

Scrap output in the main consuming areas was down in line with the general decrease in industrial activity. But overriding all these declines in supply was the continued depression in industrial demand throughout the Western world and also apparently in the Communist bloc, with China as only an intermittent buyer.

The build-up in the LME warehouse stocks to a record total of over 128,000 tons illustrates the policy of consumers keeping their stocks at low levels and relying on hand-to-mouth purchases for any residual supplies that might be required.

There are some faint signs that the long-awaited recovery in the U.S. economy is not too far away now, although a settlement of the present uncertain currency rates and removal of the U.S. imports surcharge will be needed to bring any substantial recovery in world copper values.

Now that the U.S. strike is over, there is every likelihood of increased world copper output next year, with production in Canada, Australia and the Congo in particular going ahead and plans to bring the giant Bougainville mine in Papua/New Guinea on stream next year.

But the present low prices, as well as encouraging demand, could well prove a deterrent to expanding production in view of the steadily rising costs of mining, especially in the U.S. where the cost of the huge wage settlement and some comprehensive anti-pollution controls will have to be met by companies already charging a fixed price well above world values.

If uneconomic prices continue to prevail the Council of the Copper Exporting Countries (Ciprec) may also be persuaded to resolve the disagreements among its member countries on what steps to take to lift prices. However, basically there is no substitute for genuine consumer demand, and until this arrives, with a consequent lowering in the LME warehouse stocks, prices are not likely to show any sustained recovery.

SILVER

Nothing it seems will end the decline in silver prices. The collapse in values has now taken the market down to the level of four and a-half years ago when the U.S. Treasury finally stopped selling silver at a fixed price of 129.3 cents a troy ounce and allowed a free market to develop.

However, it was the basic supply-demand situation of silver that encouraged much of the investment in it during the boom period in 1968, when huge speculative stocks were built up. It was believed that the big deficit of new output against consumption would inevitably force prices up in the years ahead, with the need to rely on

stocks more and more to fill the supply gap. This situation still applies, but not taken into account was the setback in consumption suffered during the past two years as a result of the industrial slow-down generally and improved techniques in recovering silver previously used.

The lack of demand, even after the U.S. Treasury stopped making its weekly sales last November, has proved a considerable disappointment to investors hoping that their stocks would rise in value as consumers were forced to come to the market for their requirements.

As a result investors, faced with a considerable loss on their holdings, eventually ran out of patience and decided to sell out, especially when the currency crisis proved such a disappointment in raising prices. Once the decline started it quickly gathered pace as the losses faced by stockholders mounted in volume. In addition "short" selling by speculators, taking advantage of the situation and

the contango (that is, the forward price being higher than the cash quotation), has accelerated the downward trend.

After so many disappointments it is difficult to state with any great certainty whether prices have finally reached the bottom or not. Theoretically a "floor" is provided by the fact that the Treasury must buy up at \$12.50 any new domestically mined silver offered it. But this provision only applies to newly produced U.S. silver, which, although an important source of supply, is still only a small percentage of output from elsewhere and the huge stocks built up over the centuries in silver coinage and jewellery.

With these huge stocks, sufficient to meet world consumption for many years, the lack of silver in the background, considered in the future is very much the decisive factor in the silver market. Much of the world's silver comes as a by-product from the mining of other metals like copper, lead and zinc, so the prices paid for silver directly influence the size of output. On the other hand consumption of silver is sensitive to price, especially at the higher levels where the moves to search for substitutes are intensified. At these low prices the urgency to find a replacement for silver is not great, but the hunt would undoubtedly be renewed if values went up sharply.

For the moment a steep rise in silver price seems unlikely to say the least, with so many disillusioned investors still waiting for the moment to cut their losses, but once a steady upward trend does develop and the weaker speculators are eliminated, the market could take off.

The continually falling prices have not been the best conditions for establishing a successful silver market on the London Metal Exchange, since a "bear" market is not much of an attraction to speculators. The awkward seven month contract, agreed to as a compromise, does not help either.

Changes in the LME contract to extend it to 13 months should, like the New York market, have been discussed for some time and would certainly help to boost activity. However, it is not likely to be a real success until silver prices start to rise again.

The Committee of the Exchange
in session. Seated, left to right:
A. W. Yates, N. M. Clark,
M. L. Connor, R. D. Gee (Vice-
Chairman), F. F. Wolff (Chair-
man), A. G. W. Proctor, A. H.
Inchley, and L. E. J. Foster.
Standing: J. R. T. Gibson-Jarvis
(LME Liaison Officer), R. A.
Edwards (Assistant Secretary),
and R. K. Millet (Secretary).
Other Committee members:
C. B. Carpenter, W. R. Miller-
ship, R. H. Montgomerie, and
R. A. Pearson.

Continued from previous page

ment, although pressure for an increase is building up.

The producers argue that since the last rise in the price range levels last October, which was the first increase for four years, tin mining costs have continued to escalate rapidly. It was hoped that a new Agreement would also see new price ranges, but the consumers are at present in no mood to talk about paying more for their tin.

The new Agreement, which came into force on July 1, is stronger than its predecessor in that the consumer membership has been expanded to include Russia and West Germany, two important additions to the influence of the Tin Council.

The only significant non-member left now is the U.S., which is the world's biggest consumer of tin, holding in addition a large strategic stockpile that seems a constant threat to the stability of the world tin market. It was hoped that the entry of Russia into the Tin Agreement might persuade the U.S. to join too in controlling the destiny of one of the few metals in which it has to rely solely on imports. But the U.S. Congress has a natural antipathy to joining commodity pacts and might be averse to

passing over control of the stockpile to the International Tin Council.

Instead there is close co-operation between the Tin Council and the U.S. Government, particularly over the disposal of surpluses from the strategic stockpile. Although on occasions the market has been upset by U.S. moves to offer for sale the 20,000 tons or so declared surplus to the stockpile requirements it is generally accepted that the U.S. has adopted a very responsible and sympathetic attitude to the producing countries' problems. Nevertheless, the stockpile remains as a potential threat to undo the Tin Council's work.

As with the other metals, the immediate future of tin prices depends very much on how quickly a revival in the U.S. economy brings a recovery in demand world-wide. It seems likely that this year will see a small surplus of supplies over demand for the second year running, so the surplus in the U.S. stockpile will not be needed to fill the gap as happened in the 1960s. But the balance is so fine that it could be quickly changed if consumption quickens and the low price levels discourage production any more.



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Vehicle and General Tribunal of Inquiry

John Follows denies intent to injure V & G

ALLEGATIONS that Mr. John Follows, a 38-year-old member of the Fraud Squad, had approached the Fraud Squad and the Department of Trade and Industry with intent to injure the Vehicle and General Insurance Company were wholly without foundation, it was claimed yesterday.

Mr. Follows' denial was made in a letter from a firm of City solicitors to the Tribunal inquiring into the collapse of the application in any way.

The allegations had been made by Mr. Anthony Hunt, the company's former managing director, said Mr. Follows, re-insurance expert lives at Benham, near Bishop's Cleeve, Shropshire.

Mr. Arnold told the Tribunal: "You will remember that in the course of evidence of reference, a matter concerning Mr. Follows arose in that it was definitely Mr. Hunt's conviction that matters concerning V & G had been the subject of representations by Mr. Follows to the police and/or the DTI."

Mr. Arnold said that the difficulty was that this was not a matter which came within the Tribunal's terms of reference, and therefore there was no reasonable likelihood of them granting an application by Mr. Follows to be heard as a witness. Mr. Follows' solicitors had submitted a letter from which he wanted to read "the relevant passage."

The letter said: "You know that Mr. John Follows has sought my advice in relation to his proposed visit to the Vehicle & General Insurance Company, during the course of which his name has cropped up from time to time."

"He approaches that his connection with the Vehicle and General Insurance Company is not a matter of any great interest to the Tribunal, having regard to their terms of reference. Nevertheless, he is concerned at his position following the evidence given by Mr. Hunt which received wide coverage in the Financial Times and the Daily Telegraph on October 12. It is, in particular, the allegation made by Mr. Hunt that he (Mr. Follows) with intent to injure the Vehicle and General Insurance Company, approached both the Fraud Squad and the Department of Trade and Industry in regard to certain aspects of that company's affairs."

"These allegations, which Mr. Follows assures me are wholly without foundation, are the subject of much comment and some recollection in the City where Mr. Follows works and where his reputation is, of course, all important to him."

The Tribunal chairman, Mr. Justice James, commented: "That which Mr. Hunt said in relation to Mr. Follows' activities, in my view, was very peripheral to our inquiry."

Accepted

He added: "We say publicly, in order to avoid trouble Mr. Follows to give evidence, that we accept his denial of Mr. Hunt's evidence; in this sense, that his denial is now in evidence before us to be evaluated."

"I feel sure that the Press will, in a sense of fair play they always have, consider giving equal publicity to that denial as they have to the evidence of Mr. Hunt."

When he gave evidence earlier this month, Mr. Hunt said that Mr. Follows (a member of the insurance brokers Follows, Poley, who arranged V & G's reinsurance in the early 1960s) managed to obtain considerable political influence in certain quarters. As a result, he was able to obtain information from the Board of Trade on matters which were arising between the Board of Trade and certain members of V & G.

Mr. Hunt alleged that Mr. Follows was in a position to range for the national Press, particularly The Times, to publish this.

This, he alleged, gave a "golden opportunity" for the British Insurance Association to "come out in" and put in a firm of accountants.

He had told the Tribunal that those accountants came up with a deficit of between £5m. and £10m., which was "quite crazy."

Mr. Hunt then went on to allege that Mr. Follows had the matter put to the Fraud Squad, suggesting that V & G had done something incorrect and he had managed to get the City police to an investigation.

Before the start of the Tribunal's final speeches, Mr. Peter Webster, QC, for the Department of Trade and Industry, referred to a memorandum signed by six officials of the Department who had given evidence, which had been submitted to the Tribunal yesterday. The memorandum referred to an outline given yesterday by Mr. John Arnold, QC, counsel for the Tribunal, of the allegations he could be developing in his final submission against the Department and named officers.

The memorandum said: "In evidence with the recommendation in paragraph 36 of the Report of the Salmon Commission we ask that we should each be given a written statement of the allegations against us and the substance of the evidence in support of those allegations."

It also asked that Mr. Webster could not make his final submission until either they had been given an opportunity of making observations on such statements, or the allegations, or alternatively, until Mr. Arnold's final submission had been made.

Application

Mr. Webster asked that in the circumstances the Tribunal should allow his final speech to be implemented if necessary. He suggested that after taking instructions from his clients, they could be given an opportunity, for Mr. Arnold's speech to continue and make any reply they might wish.

Mr. Arnold explained that he had been relying on the evidence of the documents and nothing after a short adjournment, the Tribunal chairman, Mr. Justice James, said Mr. Follows said what he was

submitting was that a conflict, on the subject of means as between a Government department and a Government department, was something which was virtually inevitable.

Dealing with the BIA's resistance to certain of the terms of the 1968 regulations, Mr. Threlfall maintained that "no sensible person from the Department's side could possibly have regarded this as any lack of co-operation from the BIA."

Over-receptive

"In my submission you will find that I ask yourselves whether indeed there is any over-receptiveness to the suggestions that the Department could have formed particular views as to the likelihood of non-co-operation from the BIA side," continued Mr. Threlfall.

He said the Tribunal would also have to ask itself whether this was not some sort of rationalisation and whether the Department really was over-receptive to the information that came to it from the BIA and from outside, and whether it did not reject the sort of approach which the industry used.

Mr. Threlfall said the BIA would never have admitted V & G into membership in 1966 if there had been any doubts about the solvency of the company. The DTI was entitled to take that degree of comfort from the association's admission of V & G.

As to the continuance of the company in membership of the association, Mr. Threlfall said he could hardly take comfort from the continuance of that admission. He said that when the Tribunal was looking at the problem of the admission of a company to membership of the BIA it was necessary to bear in mind a number of considerations. A trade association seeking to represent the insurance company had to bear in mind whether they could continue to perform that function with a very large company outside its membership.

Therefore if the Tribunal were to conclude there was some failure on the part of the Department to perform to the standard to be expected, then the Department could not rely on the BIA as an excuse.

Zealous

Mr. Peter Webster, QC, for the Department, said it was his function to speak in defence of the DTI and its officers. Each of these officers, very far from being negligent, had been throughout hard-working and highly conscientious, and indeed zealous.

He would not like it to be thought that in making that submission he was merely subscribing to some convention, he said.

He submitted that most, if not all, the officers concerned had during the inquiry been grievously misunderstood.

He was not criticising anybody for this. That they should have been misunderstood was an almost inevitable consequence of the inherent nature of the inquiry and its terms of reference, and in particular because of the order in which the evidence was given.

Provocative

Mr. Webster said that some of the things he was going to say were necessarily going to sound provocative. He hoped it would be fully understood that there was no intention of being provocative for its own sake, and that all the expressions he was going to use were attributable to himself and not to his clients.

He hoped during the course of his final speech to remove all of the misunderstandings which remained.

Mr. Webster said it had been suggested that the officers lacked expertise. He did not know what evidence there was to support that suggestion.

It must have been a matter of impression. It was wholly inconsistent with the evidence later given by witnesses.

Even in the last week of the evidence there were still a large number of misunderstandings about the ratios. What was particularly grievous about these misunderstandings was that nearly all of them involved the implicit rejection of what the Department's officers had said themselves about ratios.

No grounds

Nearly every misunderstanding, if not all of them, led to an inference adverse to the Department. Part of his task would be to try to remove any possible remaining misunderstandings which might cloud the Tribunal's review of the evidence.

Mr. Webster told the Tribunal there were never any grounds for intervention by the Department into V & G's affairs under the statute.

The Tribunal was adjourned until to-day.

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submitting was that a conflict, on the subject of means as between a Government department and a Government department, was something which was virtually inevitable.

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Over-receptive

"In my submission you will find that I ask yourselves whether indeed there is any over-receptiveness to the suggestions that the Department could have formed particular views as to the likelihood of non-co-operation from the BIA side," continued Mr. Threlfall.

He said the Tribunal would also have to ask itself whether this was not some sort of rationalisation and whether the Department really was over-receptive to the information that came to it from the BIA and from outside, and whether it did not reject the sort of approach which the industry used.

Mr. Threlfall said the BIA would never have admitted V & G into membership in 1966 if there had been any doubts about the solvency of the company. The DTI was entitled to take that degree of comfort from the association's admission of V & G.

As to the continuance of the company in membership of the association, Mr. Threlfall said he could hardly take comfort from the continuance of that admission. He said that when the Tribunal was looking at the problem of the admission of a company to membership of the BIA it was necessary to bear in mind a number of considerations. A trade association seeking to represent the insurance company had to bear in mind whether they could continue to perform that function with a very large company outside its membership.

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Mr. Peter Webster, QC, for the Department, said it was his function to speak in defence of the DTI and its officers. Each of these officers, very far from being negligent, had been throughout hard-working and highly conscientious, and indeed zealous.

He would not like it to be thought that in making that submission he was merely subscribing to some convention, he said.

He submitted that most, if not all, the officers concerned had during the inquiry been grievously misunderstood.

He was not criticising anybody for this. That they should have been misunderstood was an almost inevitable consequence of the inherent nature of the inquiry and its terms of reference, and in particular because of the order in which the evidence was given.

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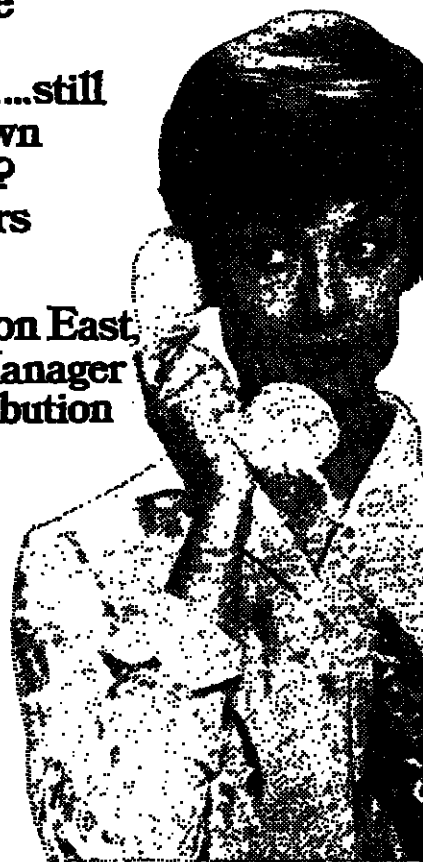
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Advertising and ...

Get medals at Cleveland

TO-MORROW a new twist in petroleum coin promotions comes from Cleveland. On 2,000 of its major garage sites motorists will be able to pick up reproductions of British army campaign medals. There are 16 in the set and to prevent outraged letters from old soldiers who won medals for gallantry the Cleveland medals will represent campaigns fought by the army between 1793-1945.

Research suggests that there is considerable interest in things historical and Cleveland hopes this promotion will also appeal to girls. To sweeten the garage owners there is a campaign brochure which they can sell at a profit for 20p.

Cleveland, with just under 5 per cent of the petrol market, arranges to make its sales drives in the autumn when the major campaigns are drawing to an end. However there will be £100,000 in TV support from tomorrow and marketing consultants Astral is looking for around the 10 per cent increase in sales achieved in the last Cleveland promotion which featured model footballers—as did the simultaneous promotion from competitor Total. This time it hopes to have the field to itself.



MARK MALEY

The pub goes global

BY ANTHONY THORNCROFT

First steps in Europe

COMPANIES are suddenly alive to the fact that they need to know something about the European markets for their goods. But how to discover the right way to sell typewriter ribbons in Italy? What sort of price to fix, what sort of retail outlet, what sort of competition, what sort of media for advertising?

Not surprisingly companies are being formed which aim to provide facts about markets. The latest is European Marketing Information Service, set up by the Osborne Group. It will handle queries for a quoted fee using desk research and its contacts abroad. No task is likely to cost more than £1,000; many less than a hundred. Competitors to agency clients need not apply. The need for such a service was indicated by D. Powell Jones who directs the company.

"How many people know that in Sweden paint shops sell cosmetics?" he says. So whether its pencils in Spain or plastic ducks in Belgium the Information Service should be some help with the data.

● Young and Rubicam Inc., with world-wide billings of \$622m. last year, is to change its name to Young and Rubicam International Inc. from January 1. One reason for the change is that by the end of the decade the agency expects over 50 per cent of its activity to be outside the U.S.

IN DECEMBER a nice old-fashioned Victorian-type pub, the Cockney Pride, will throw open its doors—in Chicago. It will be the latest of a throng of British pubs that are cropping up throughout the world. About 70 per cent of them come from Ayala Designs, which was asked to produce a pub for the British Week in San Francisco. The pub was snapped up by a local restaurateur for replanting elsewhere in California. For in its first nine days it sold almost 3,000 pints of beer and took \$8,000 daily.

But Ayala's chief executive, Mark Maley, who came from Bass International last year, does not want to be limited to pubs. "We sell atmosphere," he says and to prove the point has just produced a Russian restaurant for Sweden, complete with bear skins and pictures of Rasputin. Ayala does everything. It makes the pub or restaurant, transports it and erects it.

Customers for the pubs prefer "the exaggerated styles of British architecture," and in the company's sales office at Ickenham you can have a pint of draught beer from an exact Norwich.

replica of the ornate red plushness of an Edwardian pub or move next door to an old world Tudor bar. But Ayala will create any brand of nostalgia—it is currently working on a motor bike pub for Paris and is rather bemused by the assignment.

Some of the effects—the horse brasses, the muskets, the chandeliers and prints—are originals, but if Maley cannot buy the real thing, or if they are too costly, the factory at Stowmarket will make them.

There is a heavy demand for British "atmosphere." Turnover is already over the £500,000 mark and the commissions are rolling in, at prices ranging from £3,500 to £70,000. And Maley has a certain winner for the Christmas trade—a bar which can be installed in the home for about £800.

At the start, Ayala worked closely with the brewers, particularly Watneys, Bass and Allied, who are energetically expanding abroad. Now it tips the wink to the brewers if an American catering chain buys a pub. Maley obviously wants to progress beyond pubs. Restaurants are the next stage, but the company is already designing chalets for Turkey, and there may eventually be a market for reproductions of complete Regency shopping arcades. And although the activity is currently overseas the company has already produced one pub for Watneys in draught beer from an exact Norwich.

Manchester comes to London

By Tony Dakin

TO-DAY, a new advertising agency—Yeoward Taylor and Rotor—opens up its offices at 250,000 worth of new business tucked firmly under its belt and plans to top the £1m mark within 18 months. It is the sort of story that prompts most hard-boiled London admen to remark with a fair amount of cynicism that they have heard it all before.

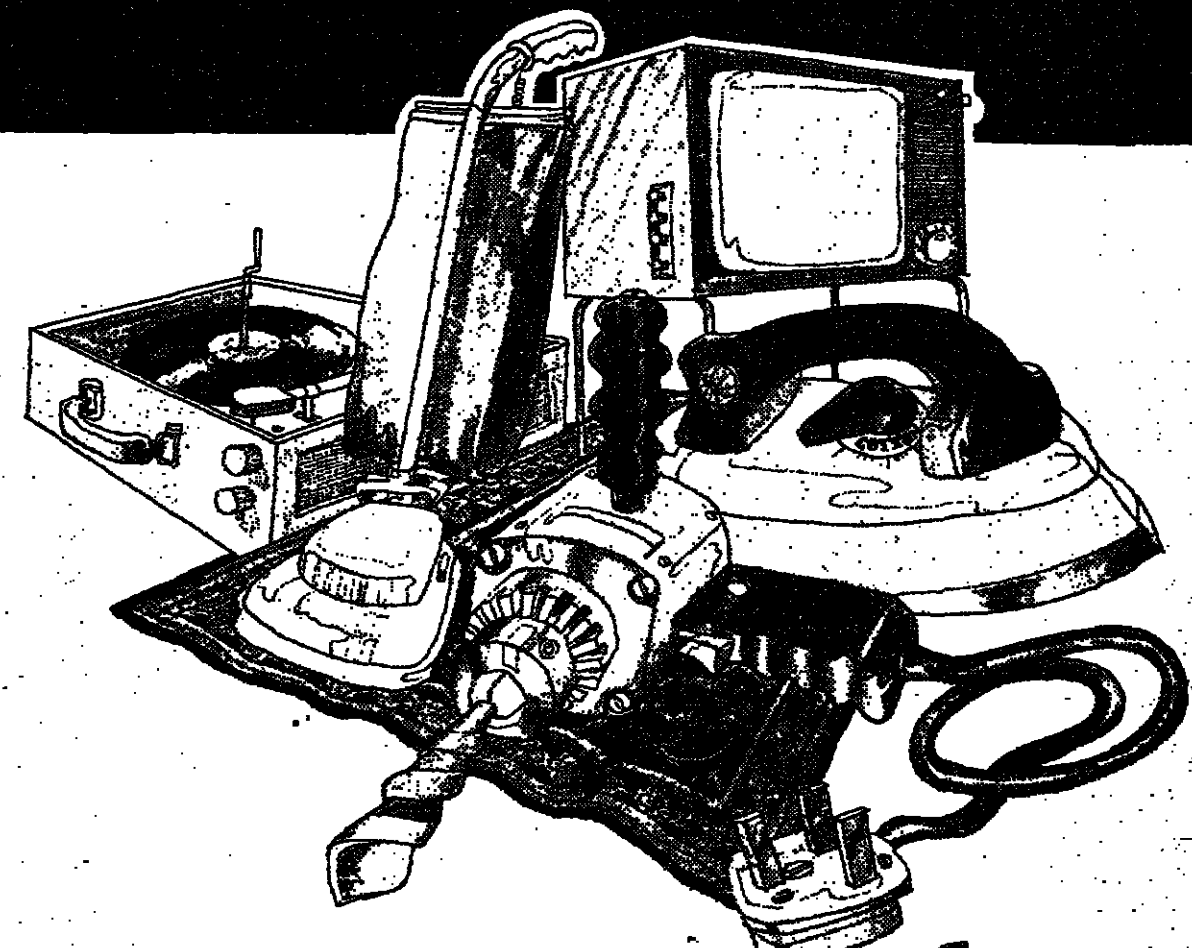
But Y.T. and R. is no run-of-the-mill, new-agency story. The partners, for instance, have not broken away from big agencies with the promise that a few accounts will follow them. Apart from a slight change in name—the name Bonner has been replaced by Rotor—the agency is a respectable Manchester one, billing about £1m. and handling such national accounts as Why and Penckley, Wine Wines and the National Tyre Service. Moreover, it is one of the first provincial agencies of any size to open up a completely new business in London. And the main reason it has decided to do so, according to director Gordon Taylor because the money that accounts with provincial agencies get past £100,000 client almost automatically start looking around for a London agency.

Already Y.T. and R. has proved its point with its first major account. Goldwell, a Kent-based agency marketing a range of drinks including Calypso, Pin Lady and Wicked Lady, used to use the agency at the time it was building up sales in the Midlands and in the North of England. But the more it spent (next year it will be up to £150,000) the more it fancied a London agency. So it parted company with Yeoward Taylor and moved its account to a major London agency. "Manchester seemed bit remote from the nation scene," says Ronald Niblett, director of Goldwell. "But it is a different story, so we have placed all our advertising business with them."

The move is also significant outside the agency. With advertising billings generally down over the last couple of years, more and more London agencies have either been trying to persuade the clients of provincial agencies to move south or have been actively looking on the London for possible takeover material.

All Y.T. and R.'s media planning and administrative work will be done in Manchester where costs are that much lower. "The more we save on this sort of advertising," explains Niblett, "the more we can spend on creative talent."

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The Marketing Scene

Mohammed Ali and Ovaltine's knock-out punch

BY ANTONY THORNCROFT, MARKETING EDITOR

"This stuff is so good you could get the Pope to promote it." The "stuff" is Ovaltine, the speaker is Mohammed Ali who, it should not have escaped anyone's notice, is currently over here to push Ovaltine. What on earth has the former heavyweight champion of the world got to do with a product which has traditionally had a rather cosy nocturnal image? That is the inevitable question. And the inevitable answer is that under a fairly new chief executive and marketing team Ovaltine is doing its level best to galvanise its image and to widen the range of its products. No more Ovaltine or sponsorship of ballroom dancing.

Mutual friend

The snarling of Mohammed Ali is very much a personal triumph for Edwin Godden who came from Beccles to run Ovaltine three years ago. He knew that the boxer actually drank the product and that they shared a mutual friend. More to the point he knew Mohammed Ali was revered in Africa and that Nigeria, one of Ovaltine's main overseas markets, had been virtually closed since the civil war. So initially Mohammed Ali was to reinvigorate the company's sales effort in the UK and of course, Thailand.

But Godden was also well aware that if he could sell to Ali the idea of a week's promotional tour of Nigeria it would not be difficult to tag on an extra week or so in the U.K. to coincide with the introduction to the trade of two new products. "Our reception in Nigeria has more than repaid the cost of the whole trip," says Godden. Ali and Ovaltine received a rapturous welcome which included an audience with the premier, General Gowon. Now on the front pages full of the product and its promoter but the Nigerians appreciated the gesture and Godden was able to make presentations of Ovaltine's virtues to such large potential buyers as the army and the refugee authorities. Sales next year should be even higher than the pre-civil war level.

In Nigeria Ovaltine has an image of conveying energy and strength; Ali conveys much the same image. The overall aim was to get this message to the consumers. The campaign in the U.K. was rather more subtle. Here the main areas of attention were the big retail groups. In the past two years Godden has



MOHAMMED ALI

reduced the importance to A. W. Godden, the manufacturing company of the single product Ovaltine from 95 per cent. to nearer 50 per cent. New products like Instant Milk and Coffee Time have been successfully introduced. As soon as Godden knew he had Ali he pushed forward by a month the introduction of yet another new product, Chocolate Time Extra, and decided to extend Coffee Time to the north of the country. In the past week there have been two rather grand occasions for the grocery trade where Ali has done his stuff and everyone has enjoyed themselves. Even Sir John Cohen of Tesco, who must have been to more new product presentations than anyone, says "this is the most impressive I have attended."

But Mohammed Ali not only wowed the retail buyers. He has appeared in the main regional television regions in leading television stores—a Tesco, a Fine Fare and a Sainsbury. The cameras have taken the Ovaltine name into millions of homes and

thousands of shoppers have had their Ovaltine tins signed by the "greatest." The only fly in the ointment was the BBC who transmitted an hour of Ali chatting to Michael Parkinson but cut out all references to the product, much to the annoyance of the boxer. Now the company is wondering how they can perpetuate the connection with probably the best-known man in the country (a market research assessment). Godden says "I don't intend to let this slip."

There will, of course, be a problem of evaluation, but Godden and Ovaltine seem delighted with the initial response. The overall cost must be around £50,000 (the exact figure is a close secret) but this is taken care of in the general promotional budget—the sponsorship by Ali will replace some TV commercials and below-the-line deals. The important thing is that Ovaltine has been energised and the trade has been flattered. Only now are the orders emerging "just sixty cases of Chocolate Time so far" but collectively the good will, the extra sales, the newspaper and TV coverage priced out as advertising space seem to have covered the cost. On Tuesday night the lease expired but Ali told me "I have enjoyed myself. I like the product and would be pleased to come back again with Ovaltine"—on the right terms. Godden for one was quite prepared to amaze competitors and customers with an equally impressive campaign next autumn.

The important thing is that Mohammed Ali has appeared at the critical moment. A. W. Godden, now a subsidiary of another Swiss company, the £300m. plus Sandoz chemical group, has managed to turn the tide which has been flowing against the £10m. a year food drink market. Ovaltine and its chief competitors Horlicks and Bournvita were struggling for growth, and with an ageing consumer profile. Now the company has used his reassuring name to introduce a range of products which have only a passing connection with food drinks.

Coffee Time could be seen as a coffee flavoured Ovaltine, but in practice is drunk mainly in mid-morning and competes with instant coffee. The same is likely to apply to Chocolate Time, which is cleverly placed to infringe on the £3m. drinking chocolate market, and will be supported in January with almost £200,000 of advertising. The sponsorship of Ali might look like showmanship but really it is an expression of confidence by A. W. Godden that a small to medium company can survive in the intensely competitive grocery business. "I consider this one of the best investments I have ever made," says Godden. In six months' time he should know whether he is right.

Donovan goes independent

James Garrett and Terence Donovan, one of advertising's best known television directors, are ending their four-year agreement by which Garrett had a 50 per cent. stake in Terence Donovan Productions, writes Antony Thornecroft. Though details of the split have not yet been finalised, it is expected that by the end of the year Donovan will be a completely independent company.

When Donovan first made the move from still photography into television direction he used Garrett's centralised financial and processing departments. The link was the first of several such satellite operations set up by Garrett, and was seen as the likely way for Garrett to expand. But Terence Donovan says the agreement was only planned to last four years. Now the company is established in its own right, with Ross Cramer, Charles Saatchi's former partner, working exclusively for the company. Both sides say the parting was amicable.

Doyle Dane pounces —at last

BY PAMELA JUDGE

AN EBULLIENT John Pringle and a subdued—for him—Tom Gallagher together with Tim Small sat down on Tuesday to tell the world that Doyle Dane Bernbach Inc. was to take over Gallagher Small. No, the price would not be disclosed but it would be a combination of shares and cash based on future earnings and other factors.

The name Gallagher Small would disappear as would that of its subsidiary Cohen Brown O'Brien. But Tom Gallagher would become managing director of London DDB, Brian Waldron deputy managing director and Tim Small creative director. Almost a reverse takeover. And with good reason. For DDB had had a management vacuum since creative man and managing director David Abbott left about 3 months ago.

In fact John Pringle "looked at 17 potential managing directors. I sought Brian Waldron the hardest, but he seemed to like working with Tom." So the deal.

Primarily DDB needed the management strength but the move will also take it into packaged goods and TV for all the clients have "responded exceptionally well." The combined accounts include Allied Breweries, Heinz, K. Shoes, Beecham, Seagrams, Tube Investments and Volkswagen.

"There are not many agencies we could have merged with," according to Pringle. "It is a question of compatibility. The Board will be composed more or less equally from both sides but enlarged to number about 16. And there will be no redundancies."

Joining the DDB network takes Tom Gallagher into the International League. No clients have been pressing for this. But if there were new products Small one, will be adopted—that

coming out which would have a market in Europe as well as the U.K. then clients would be more likely to look at us than local agencies."

Apparently it was some two months ago that John Pringle approached Tom Gallagher. Gallagher has always kept his options open and has been "turning down approaches almost daily." He (and others) started his agency in 1965 and it now bills some £3m. Of the reasons for the sale he said he thought there had been "three significant men in advertising since the war—Leo Burnett, David Ogilvy and Bill Bernbach." It will also give him and his senior team a stake in DDB Inc. John Pringle forecast a £60,000 U.K. profit this year.

Integration of the 123 staff (handling some £8m. billings) should take some two-three months. Possibly G5 will move up to Baker Street from Brompton Road, but it might be a case of both moving into a totally different building.

Consolidation, then, will take them out of the new business race for a time. And John Pringle, who is to stay as chairman, but eventually being a non-executive chairman, said the policy will still be the same: "No tobacco business and no speculative campaigns." Speculative presentations were another question.

Speculative campaigns, said Pringle, were silly, bad policy, only done to impress one or two people, bad for agency morale if you didn't win since so many people were involved and anyway they took too much time just for "pretty pictures." Tim Small said that clients were too sophisticated anyway, especially the larger ones.

Another policy, a Gallagher Small one, will be adopted—that

... And one for Royds

Like that between Doyle Dane and Gallagher Small, this move will also become the main consumer agency for the group. About between the £8m. Royds group £600,000 worth of LPA's business, however, will continue to be handled separately by LPA/Bowden seems to bring together two well-matched agencies. Southcombe, including Datsun cars and Ferodo. Michael Robinson, chairman and joint managing director of LPA, will become vice-chairman and joint managing director of Royds London, and about 25 members of LPA's existing staff will move to Royds.

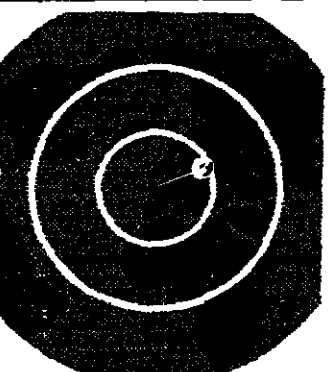
In Manchester, however, where both groups currently have agencies, the two will continue to trade separately for the time being under the umbrella of Royds Advertising Group. Surprisingly perhaps Royds is not taking up Stowe's Bowden's public quotation. "We don't feel that an advertising agency is necessarily best run as a public company," says Dennis Caldecourt, the group managing director, will transfer to

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Help yourself to drinks

BY KENNETH GOODING

ONE trend in the drinks industry that the customer can hardly fail to notice is the switch of more and more conventional off-licence shops to self-service operations. Currently conversions are proceeding at a rate of around 400 a year, having come down from the peak 1,000 in 1965-66.

A survey carried out by Stats (MR) has provided the reason for the change. It showed that on average the off-licence that converted to self-service increased turnover by 96 per cent. "This estimate is perhaps the strongest indication of the success of this trading method," declared Mr. J. L. Sawie, managing director of Stats (MR) when presenting the results of the study to the Off Licence News seminar "Going for Growth."

Mr. Sawie described self-service off-licences as those in which customers are provided with a basket in which they place their chosen items of drink and transfer them to some central point for payment. He estimated there are 3,000 such off-licences accounting between them for £58m. of liquor turnover compared with £2,178m. spent in Britain on drink last year.

This means that the average turnover of a self-service off-licence is about £20,000 compared with only £12,000 for off-licences or, to put it another way, the group constitutes 10 per cent. of the market in numbers but 14 per cent. in value.

Enlarging on the statistics, Mr. Leslie Brand, manager, food shops, for the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society, maintained the advantages to the supermarket. He also stressed that more research was needed, particularly for off sales were that costs were inter-changeable and that, because the public are exposed to the goods themselves, impulse purchases take on greater significance.

Against this, the disadvantages of having to substantially reduce the range, particularly in sizes—quarters and miniatures are too prone to pilferage—and the wine range has to be limited as space taken by beer racks is out of proportion to sales. In the main, only the popular, fast sellers are stocked under these conditions.

He also claimed that the entry of the supermarkets to the liquor business had reduced the cost of beers, wines and spirit shops to self-service operations. "Whether this is good or bad depends on which side of the fence you are. The consumer obviously very pleased; the retailer not so pleased as it has drastically reduced his gross profit rate. It has, however, popularised table wines."

It had also made the suppliers "get up and go," pushing along non-returnable bottles at a faster rate and creating a sense of urgency about promotions and marketing. The trade had passed from single sales of multi-packs which enabled a fr bigger price cut to be made with out much loss of margin. For the future Mr. Brand sees the wine and spirits sections of supermarkets growing bigger and bigger to give a wider choice. "Own label" beer will be extended to "own label" spirits in spite of the manufacturers' resistance to this. Wine will come in plastic bottles and wine and spirits sales in the supermarkets "will grow, grow."

This means tougher competition for others in the business. Already the brewers have spotted the advantages of self-service off-licences and, in spite of relatively late entry into the market, are catching up fast. Mr. Sawie pointed out that the brewers now have established roughly the same proportion in self-service off-licences as they hold in terms of total off-licences (just over 30 per cent. as measured by turnover).

He also stressed that more research was needed, particularly into the profitable use of space. For example, 20 per cent. of self-service off-licences now have more than one checkout area there is no doubt that they have a higher turnover.

Against this, the disadvantages of having to substantially reduce the range, particularly in sizes—quarters and miniatures are too prone to pilferage—and the wine range has to be limited as space taken by beer racks is out of proportion to sales. In the main, only the popular, fast sellers are stocked under these conditions.

For Dash read Digby

BY PAMELA JUDGE

IN THE twin names of publicity and marketing, Dash swept up to London's Cafe Royal in a lightish dark-blue Rolls-Royce. His public, quickly recognising their Dulux OE sheep dog, assembled.

His destiny was the Elysee suite where six of his breed were to be judged to find an assistant for him. Up in the room the six others—chosen from 450 entries in a contest—and their owners approached the whole thing in their various ways. As the proceedings got under

way Derrek Johnson, ICI director on the decorative paint side, said it was a pity there had to be an order of merit for the six. But Dash needed an assistant because there was a lot of "bounce" in the latest commercial. Peter Thomson, marketing manager of the Division, said it was a bit like Miss World—the results would be announced from last to first. While all the fuss was going on around the winner, Digby—who had won £250, a silver cup, membership of a kennel club and a year's supply of Petfoods' Pedigree Chum—the others took cat naps.

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ECONOMIC VIEWPOINT

BY SAMUEL BRITTON

'Unparalleled prosperity' — of a sort

SIMPLE CYNICISM is rarely an accurate political guide, although there is something to be said for cynicism of a more complex variety.

The Prime Minister has been much derided for saying at the Conservative Party Conference—and repeating to the motor manufacturers on Tuesday—that this country stands on the threshold of a period of growth and prosperity unparalleled since the war. Such a boast to fortune would not be given lightly. Mr. Heath and his advisers after all have access to Whitehall's own expert assessments; and although the Prime Minister may not believe everything his experts tell him, he would have hardly come out with a claim that was so blatantly contradicted by what he had heard.

Moreover, if by growth and prosperity we simply mean the average annual growth of output over the next three years—and this is what most of the Government's critics (and supporters) have in mind—the Prime Minister has an excellent chance of being proved right. The reason for this is fairly simple and here the higher-level cynicism comes in.

We are starting out from a period of unprecedented slack in the economy, with considerable reserves of unused labour and unused equipment. I shall argue that the amount of slack is less than the crude figures suggest. But it is still a post-war record. It is due partly to the present Government taking over from Labour a financial posture more deflationary than either Government realised at the time, and partly to the reluctance of the Treasury to reverse engines in the initial period of Conservative rule. This reluctance was in its turn due partly to mistaken forecasts and partly to an understandable desire to err on the side of excessive slack until wage inflation was seen to be under control.

All this is water under the bridge. There is now basically only one direction in which the economy can move, and that is upwards—irrespective of what to-day's unemployment figures will show. The previous longest period of sustained growth (leaving aside post-war reconstruction) was the Butler boom of 1952-5. If one allows simply for the increase in the underlying growth of productivity since that period, and the taking up of just some of the present slack, there is a very good chance of this being exceeded over the next few years.

The real question is not whether the Prime Minister will see a high growth of output in the next few years, but whether this growth will bring a restoration of the very low unemployment levels we experienced in the 1950s and the first half of the 1960s. To this I fear the answer is "no," and for deep-seated reasons which politicians of either party will not be able to remedy simply by "feeling strongly" about it, and which cannot be cured by pumping still further spending power into the pockets of home consumers.

Picking up

There is a good deal of evidence that demand and output are now picking up strongly. The CSO's preliminary estimate of consumer spending for the third quarter implies an annual rate of increase of nearly 7 per cent. There have been sharp rises in new car registrations and in credit sales generally; and exports are now rising in volume as well as value. Private house-building has now turned sharply upwards. Fixed investment is always one of the last sectors of the economy to turn up and here the signs are still pointing downwards. The next major stimulus is likely to come from stockbuilding, which has

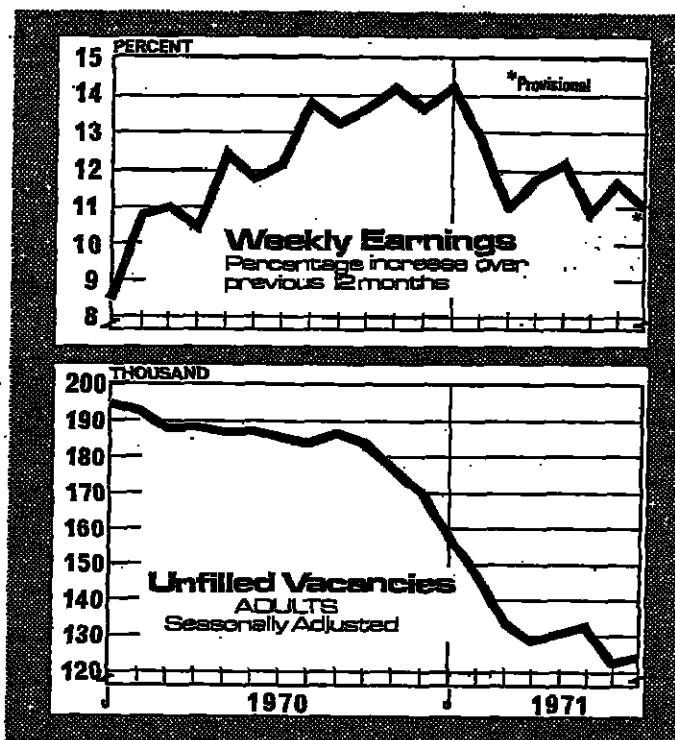
only to shift from its very depressed to a more normal level to add a great deal to final demand. Unemployment always responds with a time lag to an economic stimulus and also suffers from erratic month-to-month movements. To-day's figures will not be decisive one way or the other.

One doubt about the prosperity prognosis lies, of course, on the international side. If there is to be the \$5,000m. turnaround in the U.S. current balance of payments accepted by the OECD, let alone the \$8,000m. which the U.S. is formally demanding, this will mean slightly less demand for the goods of other industrial countries.

Mr. Pierre-Paul Schweitzer nearly included in his IMF speech a reminder to this effect, with the suggestion that other countries should respond, not by resisting the turnaround but by increasing home demand. The other members of the Group of Ten can safely expand home demand to make up this gap provided that they do so together; many countries have already shifted their financial policies towards expansion. The Japanese started the fashion. Mr. Barber reacted in July, and the Germans are now shifting in this direction too. The total deflationary gap to be counteracted in this way is quite modest—about 0.3 per cent of the GDP of the non-American members.

All the countries concerned recognise their mutual interest in avoiding a spiral of reprisals against the U.S. followed by further American restrictions. Although the present arguments in the Group of Ten may drag on for a time, the odds are that its members will muddle through to a new set of exchange rates without throttling world trade in the process.

The most important uncertainty, however, relates to domestic employment. If all one is interested in is the trend, unemployment is bound to fall



from its present very high level, once the winter is over. Indeed, from next spring onwards the normal seasonal improvement will be reinforced by economic recovery; and Ministers will be able to present the Common Market legislation against the backdrop of a strongly improving domestic picture.

If, however, the question is: "At what rate will unemployment eventually settle?" the answer could be a very different one. It is better to divide the question into two halves. The first is how high the demand for labour can be allowed to rise without another threat of runaway inflation. The other is: "How will this demand for labour be reflected in the highly-publicised unemployment figures?"

The best general measure of

allowance for changes in working hours.

On this basis money wages per hour, which were rising at an annual rate of nearly 15 per cent in the winter, are now down to about 10-11 per cent—still alarmingly high, but at least a step in the right direction. Whitehall is undoubtedly optimistic about further de-escalation this autumn; and with whatever pinch of salt one takes this, there has undoubtedly been a change in the general atmosphere of wage negotiations.

Past climate

Despite the economic upturn, wage de-escalation could well continue for some while longer. Because of the time lags, economic recovery has been slow to affect the labour market; and negotiations this season are still being influenced by the cold economic climate of last winter and spring. In addition, although the state of the labour market is (however frequently it is denied) a major influence on wage increases, there are other influences too—above all expectations about the price level. (These inter-relationships are very clearly explained by David Laidler in a contribution to a new book "The Current Inflation" just published by Macmillan.)

Up to the mini-Budget of July, retail prices were rising by an annual rate of at least 10 per cent. If one adds together the reduction in consumer taxes, the unfortunate new policy of subsidising nationalised industry prices (which is much more important than the CBI initiative which it is supposed to back) and the progress so far achieved in wage de-escalation, there is a reasonable prospect of a slower growth in retail prices in the 12 months from mid-1971 to mid-1972.

Whitehall might put the likely increase in retail prices at about 6 per cent; my own guess is nearer 7 per cent; but this is the kind of level. From next month the retail price index will be published on a new basis to show the measure of price de-escalation so far achieved. In due course, expectations of more average recovery proceeds should also add to the real value of any given money settlement. Such a virtuous circle of more jobs and less inflation cannot last indefinitely. The Chancellor cannot cut indirect taxes all the time—indeed he may eventually have to reverse some of the cuts he has made. Eventually the effects of a higher demand for labour will begin to counter-balance the somewhat more favourable price expectations, and thus threaten to restart the inflationary process. Because bargaining is now much more in real terms than it was in the post-war phase—and unions cannot be fobbed off with meaningless money wage increases—it is doubtful if the demand for labour can be permanently maintained at as high a level as was normal in most post-war years.

My own guess is that the average rate of unemployment which will prove compatible with stable prices but without a non-accelerating rate of inflation, will be somewhere around 3 per cent. This implies average annual totals not far from 800,000 during bad winters. Employment may of course be a good deal lower than this for a temporary period—thus giving Mr. Heath his predicted boor. It would then, however, throw a series of what would appear to the superficial observer as unlucky accidents or policy mistakes, go back to higher figures.

The 3 per cent is simply a guess of the average around which individual years will fluctuate. This is a good deal lower than the present level of nearly 4 per cent, but a good deal higher than the 1½ per cent average that prevailed during the 1950s and early 1960s, even the 2½ per cent which was assumed in the Labour Government's 1969 Green Paper on which is still assumed in some of Whitehall's projections.

The way out

Just as the extremely high unemployment rate of the inter-war period presented an unduly unfavourable impression of the normal workings of the capitalist (or any other) system, the postwar period perhaps presented an unduly favourable picture.

It will be remembered that per cent. was the target unemployment rate in some of the most optimistic of the wartime blueprints for employer policy, and was blessed by the late Hugh Gaitskell. Of course we should try to do better than that, but the way to do so is by choosing between prospective unglamorous, yet often contrary, improvements in the labour market. The answer does not lie in still larger budget deficits or in increases in the money supply.

Labour News

Building employers veto interim rise

BY MICHAEL HAND, LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

AN INTERIM PAY increase for building workers before their long-term wage agreement expires next June was ruled out yesterday in talks between the employers and union leaders. The unions had hoped that the employers would agree to concede new increases from January because of the rapid rise in the cost of living and because of wage movements in other industries. One of the main arguments against awarding interim pay rises would be the problems they would create for companies working on fixed-price contracts.

Negotiations will continue on the unions' claim for increases from next June affecting about 1m. workers in the industry. They are asking for the craftsmen's basic rate to be raised from £20 for 40 hours to £20 for 35 hours, with proportionate increases for other grades.

The unions also demand a new bonus scheme giving pay increases to keep pace with rising living costs and protect their standard of living against inflation. Their claim was lodged some weeks ago, and they now seek a written reply from the employers.

Power industry

The employers may not want to commit themselves until they see how negotiations develop on the important claims on behalf of some 2½m. manual workers in the engineering industry and 70,000 local authority manual workers. They are also not per-

sued yet that the upturn in building activity is likely to be anything but short-lived.

Unions in the electricity supply industry also put forward their demands for a new pay agreement in talks with the employers yesterday.

They seek a substantial pay increase and although they have not yet specified an amount it is expected to be between £2 and £3 a week. On another of the unions' demands the employers gave advance warning that they could see no justification for a reduction in the working week.

Union leaders, worried about unemployment, also pressed for an extension beyond the end of the year of the employers' guarantee that there should be no compulsory redundancy.

Mr. Jack Biggin, national industrial officer of the General and Municipal Workers' Union and the unions' side secretary of the National Joint Industrial Council said after yesterday's talks: "We are not at all happy with the present situation. Our members have seen all that the Wilberforce inquiry gave them earlier this year eroded by the cost of living."

The unions stressed the workers' impressive record in productivity which they said should not go unrewarded. "The reduction in manpower has reached the alarming figure of 35,000 since the 1967 pay and productivity agreement. The work force is now down to 70,000 local authority manual workers. They are also not per-

Libya may seek majority holding in oil producing operations

BY RICHARD JOHNS, MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

THE LIBYAN Government is planning to nationalise 51 per cent. of the country's oil-producing operations "within a few weeks," according to the official Algerian newspaper *La*

The newspaper said the Libyan Government would use the same procedure as the Algerian Government adopted last February when it took over a majority share of the subsidiaries and associates of *Compagnie Française des Pétroles* and *ERAP*—in other words, nationalisation by decree.

The oil companies would be given months to accept the Government proposals and their oil operations would be halted if they refused to comply.

The report—which is in line with the gloomier predictions of many oil executives—could have an added significance because last week Colonel Muammer Khedafi, the Libyan leader, held talks with President Boumedienne of Algeria. *La République* says that oil nationalisation was discussed by the two Heads of State. However, it should probably be seen as the first part of a campaign of pressure against the oil companies.

At the Ministerial conference of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, held in Beirut last month, Libya pressed for the adoption of the principle of majority participation. The other members, however, set themselves a more modest target of an initial 20 per cent. share.

No assurances of support were given to Libya and there have been some indications since the Beirut meeting that the Tripoli regime of Col. Khedafi was having second thoughts. However, a number of well-informed observers believe that Libya will, in the event, demand 51 per cent.

It is likely that the companies would prefer to halt operations rather than accept a far-reaching Libyan demand. It is pointed out that stocks of crude are high and freight rates low. On the other hand a capitulation to Libyan terms—even if compensation offered was considered adequate, which is unlikely—could materially affect the outcome of negotiations on participation with Gulf producers.

British Rail to lease equipment worth £115m. under new deal

BY SANDY McLACHLAN

BRITISH Railways Board has entered into a leasing agreement worth £115m. with a new consortium company, *Railway Finance*. The idea behind the agreement, the brainchild of merchant bankers Morgan Grenfell, is to allow the Board to take advantage of its backlog of capital allowances—currently in the region of £500m.

Shareholders in the new company will be Barclays Bank, Distillers, William and Glyn's Bank, CEC and Great Universal Stores. The company will be managed by Morgan Grenfell and Williams and Glyn's.

Over the five-year period 1971/72 BR will lease equipment worth £115m. from *Railway Finance*. At the same time BR will put up most of the finance for the purchase of the equipment purchased by *Railway Finance*. The recent \$60m. Euro-dollar loan by BR has been raised as the first tranche of this money. *Railway Finance* will be entitled to the capital allowances on the purchase of the equipment which would normally accrue to

BR if the Railways Board purchased the equipment outright. But the crucial point is that *Railway Finance* will be able to pass on the benefits of these capital allowances to its shareholders, all of whom make substantial taxable profits.

Under the terms of the deal, the five shareholders will pay over to BR the great proportion of the after-tax value of these allowances in cash. They will retain an undisclosed proportion as their "turn" for taking part in the set-up. This will allow BR to take advantage of its capital allowances—which can only be offset against profits—to an extent which its own nominal profit figure would not allow.

The leasing agreement represents almost 20 per cent. of BR's estimated capital programme of £600m. over the five-year period. The Board reckons that two-thirds of this sum will be supplied by internal finance through depreciation, working surpluses and sales of assets. The other £200m. will be raised outside, either from the traditional

source of the National Loans Fund or elsewhere if more favourable terms can be arranged.

The new scheme was cleared, after a certain amount of explanation, with the Inland Revenue, and now that this hurdle has been overcome it could prove a pilot scheme for similar operations. However, Morgan Grenfell admits that while the principle may hold good, each scheme would be a one-off operation. The present one is believed to be the biggest single leasing deal ever arranged in this country.

The equipment to be leased by BR includes 34 electric locomotives for use between London and Glasgow when the extension of main line electrification from Crewe to Glasgow is completed in 1974; new wagons to improve the capability and performance of rail freight services; and the main high-speed diesel trains incorporating 75 feet long air-conditioned Mark III passenger coaches, prototypes of which are under construction.

HALIFAX CUTS IN INTEREST RATES

HALIFAX Building Society yesterday announced a 1 per cent. cut in interest rates to investors and a ½ per cent. reduction in rates charged on mortgages.

The new rates—in line with recent recommendations of the Building Societies Association Council—come into effect next February on savings and existing mortgages and from November 1 on new mortgages.

Charter flight cancelled

A CHEAP-RATE Transatlantic jet flight was canceled last night after an airline was warned that some of the passengers might not be bona fide members of the club which chartered the aircraft. British Midlands Airways declined to operate the flight. Those booked on the flight were members of the Jersey Shore Club, of New Jersey, U.S. Arrangements for the charter were being handled by the London-based International Student Travel Association. No date is yet available to comment from Stanstead airport, Essex, at last night.

YOURS ADVISEDLY



For over 120 years
shrewd professional investors
have used and recommended the

Burnley Building Society

Assets £235,000,000

Trend of pay rises continues downward

BY JOHN ELLIOTT, LABOUR EDITOR

A STEADY but unremarkable country is moving into the downward trend in the rate of wage and earnings increase shown last night by statistics published by the Department of Employment with its index of basic weekly rates in September being 12.5 per cent. higher than a year earlier compared with 12.7 per cent. the previous month.

Increases in the basic hourly rates index similarly slowed down marginally from 13 per cent. to 12.7 per cent. while the earnings index in August stood 11 per cent. higher than the same month last year compared with 11.7 per cent. in July.

Annual rate

But these small reductions in the annual rate of increase do not show positive evidence that the Government's success in reducing the level of key public sector wage settlements during the past year has had any dramatic effect on earnings.

The next couple of months should yield more interesting results. First the decline in overtime working, and therefore in total earnings, of the past few months should, it is hoped, be corrected by the expected expansion in the economy.

ASCOT STAND MEMBERSHIP

The Ascot Authority has reminded people wishing to apply for membership of the members stand that they should obtain an application form from the Ascot Office, St. James's Palace, London, SW1, or from the Grandstand Office, Ascot Racecourse, Ascot, Berks. The applicant should fill in the form and have it approved by the Ascot Office before forwarding it to the office.

Saleroom

Ivory triptych fetches 6,000 gns.

A FRENCH ivory triptych of the death, assumption and coronation of the Virgin Mary, measuring 10½ inches high and thought to be 18th century, was sold at Christie's yesterday for 6,000 gns. to Eisenbeiss in a sale of Renaissance and later works of art that totalled £25,795.

Eisenbeiss also paid 1,000 gns. for a Venetian rock-crystal and giltwood casket dating from the 17th century. A Dutch 17th century silver marriage casket went to a private buyer for 720 gns. a 15th century Limoges champleve enamel eucharistic dove to Barrios and a 14th cen-

tury horse to Hunt, each for 620 gns.

A sale comprising 36 lots of Oriental hand stone carvings totalled £19,678 at Glendinning's. Clayton paid £3,500 for a pale green bowl, Spinks £2,800 for a pair of translucent marriage bowls, and £1,250 for a green bowl and Spinks £1,650 for a white incense bowl and cover, all of these being jade with Chien Lung marks. An 18th century dark green jade koro and cover went to Spinks for £2,600.

At Sotheby's a sale of Japanese works of art realised £21,470. Ekenazzi paid £1,000 for an ivory netsuke signed by Mamanan of an

peony flower, £560 for a netsuke of a Samurai by Morita Soko and £540 for a five-case Inro by Reishosai Koji. A pair of Naheshima saucer dishes went to Sotheby's for £850.

Sotheby's sale of Old Master paintings totalled £32,300. A triptych by J. van Scorel went for £980 to Jungeling and Merry Company outside an Inn by Barant Gael for £720 and a park scene attributed to Vittor Bigari for £700, both to O'Nians. Rubi-nacci acquired by a pair of still-lives of summer flowers by J. de Arrelano for £800 and Van Hole an estuary scene by J. Coelen-

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY NEWS EURO MARKETS

Rank, MEPC to raise \$40m. on Eurobond market

BY WILLIAM LOW

TWO BRITISH companies announced plans last night to raise a total of \$40m. on the international capital market.

Rank Organisation, as fore-shadowed in last week's Financial Times, will offer \$25m. of 15-year bonds through an international underwriting syndicate headed by Kleinwort Benson. In the light of current market conditions, the issue is expected to carry a coupon of 8 per cent. Final terms will be fixed on November 2.

Metropolitan Estate and Property Corporation (MEPC), through its international finance subsidiary, will float a \$15m. 10-year loan through a group of underwriters headed by N. M. Rothschild and Sons. No coupon indication has been given, but Rothschild said that the issue would be priced to yield around 8 1/2 per cent. Offering date has been set for November 3.

Proceeds of the Rank issue will be used by Rank and its subsidiaries in the U.K., while MEPC will spend most of the money in Australia.

Eurobond investors have not always been enthusiastic about offerings by British borrowers (ICI was forced to withdraw a \$30m. loan from the market earlier this year), but both Rank and MEPC are well known internationally. Other factors which

should help attract a satisfactory response to both issues are the current strength of the secondary sector of the Eurodollar bond market and the strong appetite of investors.

In this month, Ramada Inns, of the U.S., is expected to float a convertible (equity-linked) bond loan for an amount of around \$12m. Members of the under-

writing syndicate are likely to include Merrill Lynch.

In the D-Mark sector of the Eurobond market, a coupon of 8 per cent. has been attached to the DM100m. loan by the Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior, S.A. (Bancomex), of Mexico. Dresdner Bank, the consortium leader, announced that the 15-year bonds will be priced at 98 1/2 per cent.

Wendel-Sidelor turnover rises 36% to Frs.5,905m.

BY JANE BERGEROL

PARIS, Oct. 20.

WENDEL-SIDELOR turnover rose to Frs.5,905m. from Frs.4,322m. during the 1970-71 financial year—an increase of 36.5 per cent—while exports took up a slightly larger share of total turnover, reaching Frs.4,422m.

If results for the Wendel group's major subsidiaries are consolidated, sales before depreciation and taxes reached Frs.940m., compared with Frs.471m. in 1969-70, representing 15.3 per cent. and 10.9 per cent. of turnover respectively. The subsidiaries included in this

consolidation are Wendel-Sidelor (which produced Frs.600m. of the gross profits), Solac, Sidelor and Centrale Siderurgique de Richemont.

Meanwhile, De Wendel, the parent company of the group, which sold off most of its steel interests to Wendel-Sidelor, is to be reorganised under a programme for its Lorraine workshops which will lead to an increase in capacity of steel tube production at Jœuf to 50,000 tons a year (last year's output reached 35,963 tons).

Lockheed results in line with forecasts

BY JUREK MARTIN

NEW YORK, Oct. 20.

THE LOCKHEED Aircraft Corporation said today that it had made a third quarter profit of \$2.2m. (19 cents a share), compared with \$2m. (12 cents a share) last year. For the year to date, the company has earned \$13.5m., up from \$10.3m. This year's returns include \$3.5m. from the sales of property.

These results are pretty much in line with what the company has been forecasting for some months. The company's 1971 earnings are expected to be about \$13m. This will not, however, be of any comfort to Lockheed shareholders, since the company is prohibited from paying out any dividends under the terms of the recent Federal guaranteed loan agreement. Lockheed has not paid a dividend since 1968. The loan agreement extends until 1975.

The company's total sales for the third quarter of the year amounted to \$667m. (\$955m. last year) and for the first nine months to \$2,350m. (\$1,700m.).

Details of Lockheed's financial performance were released today as its annual meeting convened at its Burbank, California, headquarters. Mr. Daniel Haughton, the chairman, appeared from reports reaching New York to have little new to tell shareholders, though he did say that the company's estimates for the break-even number of orders for the L-1011 TriStar were about 255. Lockheed's own projections of the numbers of L-1011s it must sell to make money between 255 and 265 aircraft—have been widely challenged as being far too low. Mr. Haughton did not say what the revised estimates would be, but he implied that they would not be much above 265.

TWA improves again

BY JUREK MARTIN

NEW YORK, Oct. 20.

CONTINUING its recent improvement, Trans World Airlines said today that it had made a profit of \$3.1m., or 27 cents a share, in the month of September, compared with a meagre net income of \$53,000 in the same month last year.

This means that in the first nine months of this year TWA has managed to earn \$3.9m., in the same period last year it lost \$20.6m. The results include the operations of TWA's subsidiary, Hilton International.

It is still very long odds against TWA ending up the year in the black since the winter months that lie ahead are not the best for international travel. In the fourth quarter of last year, for example, the airline suffered a deficit of \$39.9m. on route to a whole year in which its consolidated loss came to \$63.9m. In all, the loss on airline operations last year came to \$99.4, a deficit that was reduced by the profits from Hilton and a special \$26.5m. tax credit.

Others

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DENMARK'S NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY

Down to its last 55 "dailies"

BY OUR COPENHAGEN CORRESPONDENT

HISTORY, and the low tastes of the mass reading public are catching up with the Danish newspaper industry and facing it with a difficult period of change and adaptation. The problems have been brought to a head by a 10-15 per cent drop in advertising revenue over the past 12 months, taking many papers to the point where the unpleasant facts can no longer be ignored.

The process of concentration has been going on for a long time. The number of daily newspapers has been halved from 110 in 1950 to 55 today as the old pattern of four papers—one for each main political party—to each town has broken down. To-day, Copenhagen still has nine daily papers, but only Odense, Aarhus and Aalborg have two or more in the provinces.

The latest victim of the decline of the party press is the Social Democratic Party's main paper, "Aktuel". It is in the process of closing down its 11 regional editions and dismissing over 250 employees, including almost 100 journalists. In future, it will have a single edition, printed in Hillerød, near Copenhagen, and distributed nationally.

At the same time as the weeding out of the weaker papers continues, a change in reading habits is creating a new problem. A decade ago, the visitor from Britain was still surprised and rather impressed to find that the ordinary Dane apparently preferred to read the Danish equivalent of such papers as the "Daily Telegraph" or "The Guardian".

Until 1968, the two Copenhagen "heavies", "Politiken" and "Berlingske Tidende" retained a joint circulation which was larger than that of the two popular tabloids, "Ekstra Bladet" (from the same stable as "Politiken") and "BT" (published by the Berlingske publishing house).

To-day, however, the two heavies have a joint circulation of about 280,000 daily while the two tabloids, with a total circulation of 422,000, are selling more than all the other seven Copenhagen dailies together.

"Berlingske" and "Politiken" have both lost ground steadily. Since 1964, "Berlingske's" circulation has fallen by about 20,000 to 151,000 daily in the first half of this year. "Politiken" has dropped about 10,000 in the same period and now sells about 128,000 daily.

The position of "Berlingske" seems fairly assured, despite the circulation fall. It is by far the biggest newspaper magnet for the advertisements and boasts that it publishes more small ads than any other daily in Europe.

But "Politiken" is in serious trouble, although there is no question of closure looming over it for the time being. It has just announced the dismissal—including pensioning off before the proper time—of 13 journalists. The rationalisation measures will probably have consequences for the technical sections later, too.

The paper is caught in a spiral of falling circulation and advertising. Over the last few years it has tried juggling with both editorial staff and content, but to no effect. It is traditionally the radical alternative to the conservative "Berlingske", but recently its radicalism has tended to find expression in the increased opinion content of its news reports, which helps to make it the liveliest of the big papers, but not always the most reliable.

The two tabloids have advanced steadily since the late 1950s, spearheaded by the aggressive journalism of "Ekstra Bladet", which has the advertising motto "We dare where others stay silent." In the sixties it not only unashamedly exploited more liberal attitudes, it helped to create the new attitudes. By now the attitudes are unifying, and the "Ekstra Bladet" is a virtual monopoly in the advertising market. In future, weekly newspapers may well be the only ones to the needs of the province.

SELECTED EURODOLLAR BOND PRICES MID-DAY INDICATIONS

Strait	Bid	Offer	Strait	Bid	Offer
Algeria 5 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 5 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 6 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 6 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 7 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 7 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 8 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 8 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 9 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 9 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 10 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 10 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 11 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 11 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 12 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 12 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 13 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 13 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 14 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 14 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 15 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 15 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 16 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 16 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 17 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 17 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 18 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 18 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 19 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 19 1/2% 1985	103	104
Algeria 20 1/2% 1985	103	104	Colombia 20 1/2% 1985	103	104

IN BRIEF

Europe

● **CIMENT LAFARGE** profits dropped sharply to Frs.78m. in first 1971 half, compared with 1970 half-year figure of Frs.106m. However, second-half results will be much healthier. Management expects to end year with increased net profit, and will certainly pay same dividend as last year.

● **ELEKTRO-WATT**, of Zurich, and Liechtenstein's **Elektro-Watt** Gesellschaft, have been acquired by the Swiss electrical industry holding company, sold to German insurance group, Allianz Versicherungs-AG, their shares of 1.11 and 6.7 per cent. respectively, in German company, Deutsche Continental-Gas-Gesellschaft, Allianz thus increases its participation in latter company about 43 per cent.

● **STE. GENERALE DE BELGIQUES** proposed shares split on five-for-one basis will take place from November 15, Brussels Bourse Committee announced.

North America

● **HONEYWELL** third quarter earnings rose 93 per cent. on sales increased 4 per cent. Mr. James H. Binger, chairman, described results as "encouraging," but pointed out comparison is with third quarter in 1970. Binger added year-to-date results are somewhat behind 1970, and consequently it may be difficult to equal net income of a year ago.

● **B. F. GOODRICH** net earnings in third quarter fell to \$8.5m. (88 cents per share) from \$9.5m. (98 cents) in the previous quarter. Earnings in third quarter were \$16.5m., compared with \$8.6m. in like period of 1970.

● **CHEMICAL NEW YORK CORP.** holding company for Chemical

Bank, reports income before taxes of \$32.5m. for the nine months so far net income was \$9,902,000 or 78 cents a share (\$9,902,000; \$1.09) on sale of \$4.8m. (\$400,000).

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● **MOBIL OIL CORP.** reported that it estimated its third quarter profit would be net \$134.1m., \$1.32 a share (against \$120.8m., \$1.19 last year).

● **HAWKER SIDDELEY CANADA** won a contract from Southeastern Commonwealth Drilling (SEDCO), of Calgary, to build \$20m. semi-submersible offshore drilling unit. This is fourth rig to be built at Hawker Siddeley's Halifax shipyard for SEDCO. Rig will be completed in two years and is scheduled for exploration work in North Sea.

● **NORTH AMERICAN PHILIPS CORP.** reported third-quarter profit as \$4,122,000 or 50 cents a share (\$2,542,000; 28 cents).

For the nine months so far net income was \$9,902,000 or 78 cents a share (\$9,902,000; \$1.09) on sale of \$4.8m. (\$400,000).

● **ESSO TO BUILD SICILY PLANT**

By Our Own Correspondent

ROME, Oct. 20. ESSO Standard Italiana plans to build the largest lubrication oil plant in Europe at Augusta, in Sicily.

The new plant will cost Lire 40,000m. (\$27m.), including extensive ancillary equipment, and will produce 400,000 tons of lubricating oil base stocks for export to Esso's European, North African and Middle East markets.

● **PANCONTINENTAL** formed joint venture with Getty Oil for continued exploration, development and, if warranted, production of Pancontinental's

GIORGIO ARMANI
Making false eye
lashes and
machine tools...

...and diaphragm valves and bearing
gears - these are just a few of the
things Cwmbran people do superbly
well. So well, in fact, that the Queen's
ward to industry now flies over four
weekend factories.

Success becomes a habit in Cwmbran. The first new town in the
rural Wales (its pronounced Cwm-
bran) is already the sixth biggest
in Wales - a vigorous young
community of over 46,000 people, and
growing fast. We have built more than
300 houses, and an advanced school
four by the sheer quality of life here.
Our own schools now provide nearly a
second intelligent school leaver
every year. We have the most modern
and attractive Town Centre in the
West, and some of the most beautiful
scenery in all Britain.

People live better and work better in
Cwmbran. That's the secret of the
town's success.

SUCCESS in solving manufacturing
problems, with new leasehold factor-
ies and factory sites available immedi-
ately. You may build your own
factory, or Cwmbran Development
Corporation will design and build,
use or provide purchase facilities for
factories of any size. There is office
accommodation too - about 20,000
sq. ft. in the town centre will be
available soon, and a new block of
round 80,000 sq. ft. is planned.

SUCCESS in providing an ample
supply of labour - skilled, well edu-
cated and young. The Corporation
provides 100% housing for your work-
ers: the key men who come with
you will be housed immediately, and
modern, centrally heated housing will
be provided for all employees of new
factories within weeks of arrival.
Costs are astonishingly low. A 3-
bedroom house in Cwmbran with full
central heating lets for about £4.50
a week including rates!

SUCCESS in cutting transport and
distribution costs. Cwmbran is at the
hub of a motorway system that links
very factory with Birmingham and
the North Midlands by M50 and M5
and with Bristol and all the South as
far as London by M4 and the new
Swansea Bridge. All South Wales lies
a our door-step via the new Newport
Bypass and export industries are
served by the modern docks of
Newport, Swansea, Cardiff, Barry
and Port Talbot.

But our main success has been in
solving new industries like yours to
move to Cwmbran. We really want
you. And those who come here never
wish to leave.

Please write, phone or call today.
Ask for the General Manager,
Mr. J. E. McComb.

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Cwmbran
Garden City of Wales

Cwmbran Development Corporation,
Victoria Street, Cwmbran will be
Monmouthshire NP23 3JZ
Telephone: Cwmbran 2191

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

The new thinking at GUS's

BY ELSBETH GANGUIN

EVEN IN 1971 there are still
companies—even big ones—im-
mersed in the process of painful
transition from running their
businesses in an autocratic or
bureaucratic manner to employing
broader, more democratic man-
agement structures and appro-
priate personnel policies. The
mail order division of Great Uni-
versal Stores, with its head-
quarters in Manchester, is a case
in point.

GUS's mail order side employs
some 10,000 people. About 40
per cent. of them do general
clerical work and roughly a
similar number man the ware-
houses. The rest deal with sales
or administration. All are
governed by a "functional"
Board, which concerns itself with
marketing, merchandising,
operations, finance and man-
agement services.

Better service

These new personnel policies
are aimed at giving a better and
more efficient service, in an
economic way as possible. Mr.
Harris added: "At one time with
our method of trading, it was
not necessary to be particularly
efficient." But, he admitted,
while the good will was there
the actual introduction of appro-
priate methods of man-manage-
ment and communications still
presented problems, even
though they were now interest-
ed in learning how to tell people
how to do things instead of
simply saying to them, "Do it."

As a first step, GUS appointed
a personnel manager, a manage-
ment services director and com-
puter and other experts, all from
outside. About 20 graduates
have been taken on, too, over the
past three years. Then, about
a year ago, the top 30—most of
whom had grown up with the
business—were taken for four
days into seclusion at Chester,
under the auspices of Professor
Roland Smith of the Department
of Management Sciences, Uni-
versity of Manchester Institute
of Science and Technology. For
the first time, Board and senior
managers were "confronted"
with each other as a "group".
The results, it is claimed, were
highly beneficial.

It was realised by all, for
instance, that the previous "one
decision from the top" could,
with advantage, be replaced by
a positive interaction of man-
agement skills. To clarify this fur-
ther, an American Management

Association "package," designed
to improve management per-
formance, was acquired, and for
five months the same top people
were subjected to films and lec-
tures (in conjunction with the
Manchester Business School),
with a good deal of homework
in between. This seemed to do
the trick.



Milton Hill, Berkshire, which W. H. Smith and Son has bought for staff training. The annual training budget comes to £175,000.

But to forge still broader founda-
tions for the "working together
as a group," a two-year, once-
monthly lecture programme has
now been arranged with the help
of Manchester University, com-
plete with dinners and sub-
sequent discussions.

Of course, it is one thing to
process the senior management
group, and quite another to let
this new thinking filter through
to middle management and the
ranks. As Mr. Harris says, "We
are still in the middle of all
these things." For instance, there
remains the need to introduce
job specifications and a system of
appraisal, while middle manage-
ment needs to learn techniques
related to developments in the
organisation and to man-manage-

All this, Mr. Harris intends to
have done internally. But he
believes he must start at the
top. Thus the top group will
first be told about appraisal
systems and how to identify
other people's potentials, and so
forth. This is to be done
between now and December,
largely by GUS's management
development officer—also a more
recent acquisition. Parts of the
American "package" are likely

to be brought into a programme
for middle management, too,
while appreciation training con-
cerned with developments within
the organisation, like budgeting
control, or computerisation, will
be brought in. The main object
is "to provide the right kind of
environment for change."

As for the "troops," who make

historical place in 50 acres of
ground. The annual training
budget comes to £175,000, and
225 "course days" are on the
books.

During a visit to Milton Hill
the other day, Mr. Julian Smith,
the staff and training director,
emphasised that training was the
definite responsibility of line

management training plan for head
office, retail and wholesale staff,
culminating in an integrated
three-week senior management
course. "In theory everyone is
trained for the next job up, not
for his present one," said Julian
Smith. Laying stress on the
"participatory" nature of the
courses, he suggested that in
the Milton Hill environment
trainees were induced to "learn
for themselves." The nine
instructors are seconded for
three years from line manage-
ment, another interesting Smith
philosophy.

At a financial appreciation
course for senior retail area and
large shop managers, which was
running on the day of my visit,
W. H. Smith's annual report and
accounts was the subject of the
lesson. The trainees were en-
couraged to regard themselves
as shareholders, and to quiz the
chairman on just about every
point in his statement.

Democracy was taken as far
as to suggest to the Smith
employees that questions might
even be asked about the direc-
tors—why were they appointed?
Another course in session was
for female shop assistants facing
"their first step up." They were
busy solving such retail manage-
ment problems as dealing with
a customer who argued that she
had given a £5 note, not £1, in
payment of goods she had
bought. (The solution which met
with the greatest approval was
the suggestion that no fags
should be made and that the
customer's word be accepted.)

Were they likely to become
branch managers? "Unlikely,"
was the answer. The company
would like to have more female
managers, but they are not
mobile enough. "We asked a
class of 20 the other day how
many wanted to become branch
managers, and only one hand
went up."

There is a four-stage manage-

IN BRIEF

● The Rubber and Plastics
Processing Industry Training
Board promises a precise train-
ing action plan which, when fully
operational, will enable com-
panies "to move away from the
sometimes irrelevant digressions
of the former methods, and to
use training as a direct factor in
greater profitability and greater
productivity." The ITB is run-
ning courses to instruct those
who will conduct a survey of
training needs. Let us hope that
when, in 1972, the plan is to be
introduced, all this will still be
valid. Who knows what Mr.
Robert Carr will have in store
for the training boards? His
verdict is expected in a couple
of months.

● The Local Government Train-
ing Board (a voluntary body) has
produced a training recommen-
dation for staff engaged in
personnel work. "The manage-
ment, training, development and
welfare of the 2m. local govern-
ment employees in England and
Wales is a major responsibility
of managers at all levels," it
says in the introduction to the
Stationery Office for £1.30
(\$1.50 by post), which, on 400
pages, gives "authoritative and
unbiased information on careers
in the professions, industry and
commerce."

● The Air Transport and Travel
ITB has published a Handbook
of Training Practices as the first
part of a new training package,
to provide those responsible for
training activities with examples
of training practices recom-
mended by the Board. The
Paper and Paper Products ITB,
in turn, has come out with a
booklet on accident prevention,
on which it has been congrat-
ulated by Mr. Carr.

● Finally, there is a new Careers
Guide, 1971-72, available from
the Stationery Office for £1.30
(\$1.50 by post), which, on 400
pages, gives "authoritative and
unbiased information on careers
in the professions, industry and
commerce."

One in the eye

If this is true, this whole
department is clearly one in the
eye for the advocates of job
enrichment! Apart from Man-
chester, GUS has office blocks in
Burnley, Preston, Bolton and
Wigan, and a modernised mill at
Fulwood. Putting the office
operations where staff is avail-
able. In those places, too,
operations were quite satisfac-
tory. Nor did any high labour
turnover occur among the com-
puter operators, sitting row on
row and transferring the agents'
orders into the machine.

There are clearly many knots
still to be tied together at GUS.
W. H. Smith and Son, on the
other hand, which employs 11,000
full-time and 8,500 part-time
staff in its head office and its 117
wholesale houses and 492 retail
outlets, spent £95,000 earlier this
year on a college of its own—
Milton Hill in Berkshire, a lovely

Victaulic
planning
sales drive

By David Walker

VICTAULIC, part of the Tubes
Division of the British Steel
Corporation and one of the
largest mechanical joint manu-
facturers in Europe, is planning a
major sales drive for its pipe
joints in the heating, plumbing
and ventilating markets.

The project, due to start in the
spring, follows two years' work
by the company to gain accept-
ance for the joints by fire
sprinkler systems manufacturers.

To-day, nearly every U.K.
manufacturer of such systems is
claimed to use the joints, which
offer better assembly times than
traditional welded or flange and
bolt pipe joints, to a greater or
lesser degree.

The move to fresh markets for
what is basically a 40-year-old
product represents a significant
diversification programme for the
company. In the past, it has
concentrated largely on its Valspar
Johnson pipe couplings, used
largely in the shipping industry
and other marine and water
applications.

Those account for the major
share of the company's £3m-a-
year turnover, of which 40 to 45
per cent. is from overseas sales.
Its major customer for Victaulic
trade-marked joints has been the
National Coal Board.

The change of direction comes
after the drawing up of a
licensing agreement between the
BSC subsidiary and Victaulic
Company of America—in which
it no longer has any financial in-
terest—for the U.K. concern to
manufacture portable pipe cut
and roll grooving tools developed
in the U.S.

Available on hire to U.K.
customers, these allow easy on-
site assembly of pipe systems. In
the U.S., the heating, ventilating,
plumbing and air conditioning
sectors already form major
market interests for the Victaulic
Company there.

Within a few years, Mr. W. Orr,
sales manager, forecasts those
should prove the dominant mar-
kets in the U.K. too.

Sales for fire-fighting systems,
worth £25,000 last year in the first
12 months of commercial market-
ing for that purpose, should also
see rapid growth. Strong exports
potential also existed, he stated.

He stressed that the changes in
emphasis meant real expansion
for the company, rather than a
mere re-alignment of customer
shares of existing output.

MOVITEX LIMITED

Signs—Records—Engineering

Points from the Statement of the Chairman, Mr. R. W.
Bulfield, for the year to 28th February, 1971:—

Further steady progress—in spite of extremely difficult
business conditions throughout the world.

★ Sign Division: Solid progress—overseas operations ex-
panded. The acquisition of Adapta Charts has been
harmoniously and efficiently integrated.

★ Record Division: Steady progress and margin maintained
on increased turnover. Several projects for expanding
this division are under active consideration.

★ Engineering Division: Trading more profitably and the
level of orders has picked up.

★ The Current Year: It is intended to make a bonus issue
of one for two and pay an interim dividend of 5%, and
a final of 12½% on the increased share capital. This is
equivalent to a 24½% dividend on the old capital.

	1971	1970	1969
*Share Capital	287,054	287,054	191,389
*Profits (before tax)	221,035	192,291	156,782
*Net Profits (after tax)	137,501	104,459	87,394
*Gross Dividend	20%	20%	15.5%
*Earnings per share	4.80p	3.63p	2.83p
*Bonus Issue of 1 for 2 proposed			

Cannon Street
Investments
Limited

Notice is hereby given of the appointment of
Lloyds Bank Limited as Registrar with
effect from 15th October, 1971.

All correspondence and documents for
registration regarding the Stock and Share
Registers should in future be sent to:—

Lloyds Bank Limited,
Registrar's Department,
The Canseway,
Goring-by-Sea,
Worthing,
Sussex.

Telephone: Worthing 44741 (STD Code 0903)

Rowe White & Co. Ltd.
Secretaries.

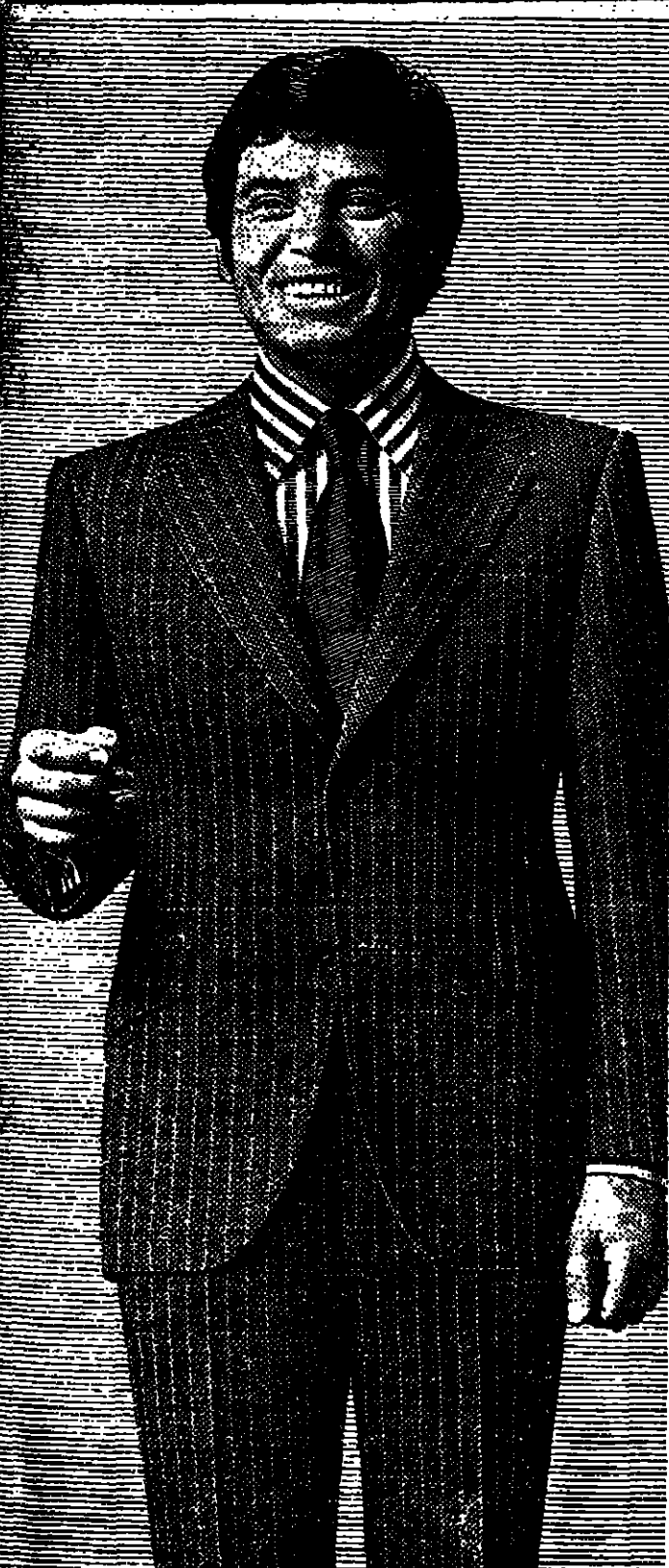
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vault
to
Tokyo
with
JAL

Four times a week JAL's Polar Route gets
you to Tokyo in two giant strides.
But all the exercise you need take is
just enough to lift a cup of sake, to sip
champagne and nibble *otsumami* while
you wonder why the Arctic Ocean looks
like a marble slab... and if all Japanese
girls are as charming as your JAL
hostess. Meanwhile there are several
more delightful hours to Tokyo.

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in a Sumrie
Suit

Today's styling with
classical assurance...
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You'll find Sumrie
combine these three
qualities to make a
suit mean something
really impressive.
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From about £32.00.
In an extensive size
range and made to
measure, too. Stocked
where first-class
tailoring is appreciated
and personal attention
given as a matter
of course.

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FOR MEN WHO CARE WHAT THEY WEAR

Leading Sumrie
Stockists include:

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- GREYHART STREET
Herbert Chappell
- WIMBLEDON
Ely
- NEW CAVENDISH STREET
John Lewis
- OXFORD STREET
Selfridges
- PICCADILLY CIRCUS
Swan & Edgar

and other good men's
shops and stores
throughout the country

INTERIM STATEMENTS

WEIR

THE WEIR GROUP LIMITED

INTERIM STATEMENT

Results for 25 weeks ended 25th June, 1971. Subject to Audit CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

	25 weeks ended 25 June, 1971 £'000s	25 weeks ended 26 June, 1970 £'000s	52 weeks ended 1 Jan., 1971 £'000s
TURNOVER	33,229	29,976	68,445
Profit before interest & tax	1,910	1,807	3,620
Interest payable less receivable	1,002	836	1,840
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	908	971	1,780
Estimated Taxation	253	272	379
Tax adjustment for prior years	—	—	(72)
PROFIT AFTER TAX	655	699	1,473
Profit attributable to minority interests	25	23	28
PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE WEIR GROUP LTD	630	676	1,445

INTERIM DIVIDEND

An interim dividend of 8% (1970: 8%) will be paid to Shareholders for the 52 weeks ending 31st December, 1971. Payment will be made on 6th December, 1971 to Members on the Register at close of business on 5th November, 1971.

TRADING AND PROSPECTS

Orders received and invoiced sales were 6% and 11% higher respectively than in the first half of 1970. The Engineering Division should show higher profits for 1971 on increased sales. The other Divisions should all show improved performances over those of 1971, with the exception of the Foundries Division, where profits will be affected by reduced demand. The final outcome of the Group's operations for the year is expected to be much the same as in 1970, and should enable the Directors to recommend a final dividend of 14% (1970: 14%).

THE WEIR GROUP LIMITED
CATHCART, GLASGOW, S.A.

Telephone Rentals

INCORPORATING
DICTOGRAPH TELEPHONES LIMITED
OPERATING TR SERVICES

INTERIM STATEMENT FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1971

	1971 6 months ended 30th June £	1970 6 months ended 30th June £	1970 12 months ended 31st Dec. £
T.R. Group Profit, before Taxation (unaudited)	2,582,000	2,315,000	5,245,000
Less: Estimated Taxation	800,000	856,000	1,598,000
Group Profit after Taxation	1,782,000	1,459,000	3,647,000
Less: Minority Interests	8,000	8,000	16,000
Balance of Profit attributable to Telephone Rentals Limited	1,774,000	1,451,000	3,631,000
Depreciation:			
Amounts charged in arriving at above Profits	1,008,000	925,000	1,861,000
Taxation:			
United Kingdom*	649,000	726,000	1,283,000
Overseas	151,000	130,000	315,000
	800,000	856,000	1,598,000
* Corporation Tax rate used. These figures do not provide for any transfers to the Tax Equalisation Reserve, which if calculated on the normal basis would amount to	247,000	186,000	471,000
Associated Company			
Share of Profit included in above figures:			
Profit, before Taxation	73,000	67,000	139,000
Taxation	35,000	30,000	69,000

The unaudited Profits of the Group show a marked increase and business taken for the first six months of 1971 is ahead of that taken for the same period last year.

Although some slowing down is to be expected during the second half of the year, it is anticipated that the outcome for the year as a whole will be satisfactory.

The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend on the Ordinary Share Capital of 10% payable on 22nd December, 1971, to all Shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 10th November, 1971.

Allen Harvey & Ross Limited

INTERIM STATEMENT 1971

The exceptional profits for the first half of our financial year were a record for any six month period.

The full effects of this should be apparent by the end of the financial year which is April 5th 1972.

Trading conditions in most of our markets are still favourable although some profit margins have been eroded.

Meanwhile, the Directors declare an interim dividend of 15% (1970—10%) and expect to be able to pay a final dividend of not less than 15% (1970—16%) making a total for the year of 30% (1970—26%).

Allen Harvey & Ross Limited, Bill Brokers and Bankers,
45, Cornhill, London E.C.3.William Baird
& Company Limited

Interim Report for the half-year ended 30th June, 1971

An interim dividend of 4 per cent. (1970—4 per cent.) requiring £449,000 gross, was declared yesterday on the Ordinary Stock of the Company in respect of 1971. It will be paid on 7th December, 1971, less Income Tax, to those Stockholders on the Register on 9th November.

	1971 Unaudited First Half-Year £'000	1970 Unaudited First Half-Year £'000	Audited Full Year £'000
Operating Profit			
Textiles	503	345	707
Industrial	259	231	563
Mining			
Sierra Leone Development Company	116	(228)	57
Services	163	137	394
Investment	240	381	793
	1,281	866	2,514
Central administration	(102)	(93)	(190)
Interest	(287)	(298)	(637)
Profit before Taxation	892	475	1,687
Estimated taxation	(335)	(125)	(311)
Profit after Taxation	557	350	1,376
Minority interests	8	26	22
Profit for Period attributable to Ordinary Stock	565	376	1,398

Interim Statement

Group As expected, profit before taxation reflects a significant improvement in Textiles, a satisfactory result from Industrial and a reduced return from Investment. In Mining, Services continued to make steady progress, but the contribution from the Sierra Leone Development Co. was at a lower level than in the second half of 1970. The charge for taxation has returned to a more normal basis.

Textiles Results for the half-year include a useful increase in the profit of the established units and one month's contribution from J. H. Buckingham & Co. U.K. garment operations have continued to expand sales. The spinning mills have had difficulty in securing sufficient orders to maintain multi-shift working on a continuous basis, but the cloth manufacturing units have made a strong recovery from the aftermath of the major fire in 1970. The Italian operation continues to be bedevilled by labour unrest and frequent strikes. Results for the second half of the year should maintain the improvement achieved during the first half end, in addition, will include a full six months' contribution from Buckingham.

Industrial The small increase in profit over the first half of last year was achieved despite the severe difficulties in some engineering markets served by the company, including the aero-engine industry. Much of the business is geared to demand for types of capital plant in which recovery will not be immediate. The volume of work on large specialist contracts which are in hand is increasing. A fifty per cent. addition to fine magnesia chemical capacity has recently come into service. The final profit for the year 1971 is expected to compare not unfavourably with previous years.

Mining Production of iron ore concentrates by the Sierra Leone Development Co. showed a marked increase over that of the first six months of 1970 and there was a noticeable improvement in quality. Since then, operations have been hampered by two derailments on the company's railway which, combined with the continuing rise in costs, will limit profitability in the second half of the year. Late in 1970 and in the early months of 1971, demand for iron ore was strong. In the second quarter of 1971 this trend was abruptly reversed, world production and sales of steel turning sharply downwards, leading to a substantial surplus of iron ore production capacity. For the remainder of this year no difficulty is expected in disposing of the mine's production, but if there is no improvement in world steel markets by the year-end, the outlook for 1972 cannot be regarded as encouraging. The other companies in the Mining division continue collectively to show improvement.

Investment As foreshadowed in the Annual Statement in May, Investment income showed a substantial reduction in the first six months of the current year, and this trend will continue for the remainder of 1971. Several factors contribute to this shortfall. Income in 1970 was boosted by a number of special receipts; a lower return from the major investment in Joseph Dawson (Holdings) will occur in 1971 and resources available to Investment have been reduced mainly to help with the acquisition by Textiles of J. H. Buckingham for £3.5m. in cash. In the process, a number of investments have been realised on advantageous terms. The balance of the 9 per cent. loan notes in Joseph Dawson (Holdings) has been repaid recently ahead of schedule. Group cash flow is also expected to be positive from now on, leading to an increase in the resources available for investment in 1972.

Outlook For 1971 as a whole, the expectation is still for a marked increase in pre-tax profits, with the benefit of this offset by a return to a more normal tax charge. The intention is to maintain the year's dividend at 11 per cent. with a final payment next June of 7 per cent. Looking to 1972, the problems facing the mining company are considerable, but the resilience of Textiles and Industrial in the face of difficult conditions in their respective spheres encourages the belief that they will do well when the economic climate improves. There are some signs that the textile industry is beginning to feel the effect of the various stimulants to demand but it is likely to be some time yet before the engineering industry also begins to benefit.

S. A. FIELD, Chairman.

SECURITIES TRUST OF SCOTLAND LIMITED

Unaudited Interim Report six months ended 30th Sept. 1971

Revenue

	30th September 1971 £	30th September 1970 £
Gross Investment Income		
Franked	717,210	669,637
Unfranked		
U.K.	100,038	139,492
U.S.	156,320	149,201
Other	8,568	13,059
	£982,136	£971,389

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 2½p (2½p) on the Ordinary Shares 25p for the year to 31st March 1972 payable 10th December 1971 to the Shareholders on the Register as at 6th November 1971. The Board expects to maintain the total dividend for the year to 31st March 1972 at 6p.

Investments

	£	£
Valuation of Investments including full Dollar Premium of £2,003,120 (£2,045,243)	46,872,274	38,314,157
	311,072	381,008
Net Current Liabilities	£46,561,202	£37,933,149

Net Asset Value per Ordinary Share 25p:

	183.53p	139p
Deducting prior charges at:		
Par	183.53p	139p
Market Value	183.53p	156½p

MILK DELIVERY CHARGE 'LIKELY'

A warning that delivery charges might soon be imposed for daily milk deliveries was issued yesterday by the North Midlands area of the National Dairywomen's Association.

Mr. Ron Wilcox, regional secretary, said the charge was likely because of the withdrawal of an allowance to wholesale suppliers for getting milk to delivery men.

'BIGGEST HEATING SCHEME'

A working model of the "biggest district heating scheme in the country" can be seen in London next week. It illustrates Peterborough Development Corporation's £2m. scheme at Bretton, the first of "Greater Peterborough's" new townships. It will be featured at an exhibition about Peterborough at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, Lancaster Gate, next Monday to Friday.

SHORT SKYLINER

A Short Skyliner aircraft has left Belfast on a sales tour of the Far and Middle East. The aircraft is being flown directly to Nagoya in Japan, where it will form a major part of Short's participation in next month's Japan International Aerospace Show. This will be followed by an intensive seven-week demonstration and sales tour covering Japan, Malaysia, Burma, Nepal, India, Iran, the Lebanon and Greece.

Stores' deal with union
'almost meaningless'

BY ALEX HENDRY, LABOUR REPORTER

A NATIONAL agreement between the shopworkers' union and the British Home Stores is shown to be almost totally meaningless by a report published yesterday by the Commission on Industrial Relations.

The agreement was signed in June, 1969, after a strike at a store in Swansea. It recognised the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers as the sole union for British Home Stores employees. But USDAW had less than 5 per cent of the staff in membership.

Pay dispute

A further dispute developed at Swansea when the union lodged a wages and conditions claim, and the threat of strike action led to the CIR investigation. The company argued it could not negotiate the claim because wages and conditions at its 85 stores were determined centrally, and USDAW could not negotiate at that level because it represented so few of the workers.

The union's reply was that it did not seek national negotiations but wanted local deals in those stores where it had a majority of the workers in membership.

The CIR reports that it has not been successful in helping the

two sides sort out the main problem of whether local deals can be negotiated against the background of the company's centralised policy.

It recommends that the company should be prepared to take the union into its confidence when it is considering changes in the terms and conditions of employment and "give full weight to the views of the union representatives and to allow its decisions to be influenced by the aspirations of the union members and the wider experience of their full-time officials."

The CIR has some sympathy with the union's difficulties in trying to recruit members in the industry. It says that at British Home Stores in 1969-70 the average weekly number of employees was 12,226, including 5,239 part-time of whom 4,000 work only on Saturdays. The turnover rate among full-time employees has averaged over 70 per cent.

It says of union membership: "Permanent strength is to a considerable extent, a reflection of management policy." And it adds that if the company is prepared to follow the CIR recommendations it will have to drop its present neutral attitude to union membership.

The report goes on: "It should be prepared to consider the best

means open to it of bringing to the attention of its employees the advantages of them joining the union that the company formally recognises, and of encouraging them to take that step."

But USDAW does not escape criticism. The report says: "The weaknesses revealed during the course of our inquiries cannot all be attributed to the attitude and conduct of the employer or to the constitution of the labour force. We came across evidence of lack of attention on the union's part to the needs of its membership."

It adds: "There appeared, too, to be considerable room for improvement in the methods and machinery for communicating with both members and potential members."

'Disappointed'

A spokesman for USDAW said last night that the union had received the report with the "utmost concern and disappointment." He said the main reason for the union's fall short of any formula that would allow the union to achieve its rights to represent its members.

A spokesman for British Home Stores said the company had no comment to make.

Austin-Morris men at Oxford
accept pay offer

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

SOME 4,000 hourly-paid workers at the Austin-Morris car body plant at Oxford voted to-day to accept the company's latest pay offer, varying from £1.30 to more than £4 a week.

This brings their rates up to between £2.22 and £4.80 for a 40-hour week. About 100 men in the lowest grade, who will get the smallest increase, have also been awarded a special payment of £100.

The pay award covers all the manual workers who are not employed on the production lines and include sweepers to skilled fitters and electricians. Men on the lines are either on piecework or a flat rate of £4.2 for a 40-hour week.

Farm pay deal:
meetings will
test reactions

By Our Labour Correspondent

THE £20m. pay award made on Tuesday to 350,000 farm workers in England and Wales will be considered by the national executive of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers at its meeting next week.

The union's negotiators have already expressed extreme disappointment at the award which will give adult male workers a rate of £16.20—an increase of £1.40—for a 42-hour week from January. They had sought a rate of £18 for a 40-hour, five-day week.

First reactions to the award, which has yet to be confirmed, will come this week-end at a peace conference in Cheshire, where Mr. Reg Bottini, the union's general secretary, will be the chief speaker, and in Dorset. The union has complained that the increase will not even make up the cost-of-living since the last award was made and some of its more militant branches may call for some sort of protest action.

The award does not cover the 40,000 farm workers in Scotland, who have a claim in for a new basic rate of £18 for a 42-hour week. The present minimum wage for general farm workers in Scotland is £15 for 42 hours. The claim will be considered at a meeting of the Scottish Agricultural Wages Board next month.

Austin-Morris also announced to-day that it is cancelling its "immediate plans" to close the export packing factory at Oxford by the end of the year.

The closure had been strongly opposed by the unions and after national level talks at York last week ended in deadlock there were more discussions at the factory this week.

Chrysler peace

The 400 employees there pack car sets which are shipped to Austin-Morris assembly plants overseas. The company announced last month that it wanted this work to be done by piecework or a flat rate of £4.2 for a 40-hour week.

Correspondent, writes: A strike by

OXFORD, Oct. 20.

120 settlers at Chrysler's Linwood (Renfrewshire) factory which resulted in hundreds of other workers being sent home were told to report for work for the night shift to-night or to-morrow morning.

The strike, which began earlier to-day, was over pay subsequent talks between union representatives and the management led to a basis for a return to work being found.

Last week the unions submitted a claim for an 88 a week pay increase and a 35-hour week on behalf of 5,000 production workers. Their pay and productivity agreement is due to run out at the end of this year.

Swan Hunter fitters
go back to work

THE five-day unofficial strike of 700 fitters in the five yards of Swan Hunter shipbuilders was called off at a mass meeting at Wallsend yesterday.

The return to work began with last night's shift. The 70 ancillary workers, laid off because of the stoppage, were also going back last night and to-day.

The fitters, who had already banned overtime in a demand for bigger bonuses, walked out on Friday after 25 of their workmates were suspended at the Neptune Yard, Walker, for refusing to work dinner-hour or overtime during machinery trials in the new missile-destroyer Bristol.

Their decision to go back followed a peace formula agreed between the Swan Hunter management and Mr. George Arnold, divisional organiser of the AEUW, and the men's shop stewards.

The 25 suspended men have been reinstated and the fitters have lifted their overtime ban. There will be a meeting to-morrow between the two sides to resolve the men's grievance. Mr. Arnold said that if by Anglo-Eastern Bulk Ships, necessary work progress the order and will be managed by claim through accepted negotiat. J. and J. Denholm, Glasgow.

TANKER
LAUNCHED BY
SWAN HUNTER

Swan Hunter Shipbuilders yesterday launched a 28,000-ton deadweight chemical products tanker, Chemical Explorer, at Hebburn Shipyards for the Nasse Group.

This is the first of two similar vessels ordered two years ago at a cost of £8m. The second is due to be launched next year. The two ships will be operated by Anglo-Eastern Bulk Ships.

INTERIM STATEMENT

S. Pearson & Son, Ltd.

Announcement of unaudited results for the half-year to 30th June, 1971

	1971 £'000	1970 £'000
RESULTS:		
Profit of the Group before taxation	6,594	5,731
Deduct: proportion attributable to minority interests and pre-acquisition profit	2,443	2,210
Profit before taxation attributable to S. Pearson & Son, Ltd.	4,151	3,521
Total taxation (including overseas taxes £569,000—1970 £474,000)	2,429	2,023
Deduct: proportion attributable to minority interests and pre-acquisition profit	1,038	917
Net profit attributable to S. Pearson & Son, Ltd.	2,752	2,415
DIVIDENDS (GROSS):		
5% Preference dividend of 1971	13	13
Interim ordinary dividend of 7½p on £15,084,900 capital (1970—7½p)	1,131	1,131
	1,144	1,144

NOTES:

- The net profit attributable to S. Pearson & Son, Ltd. does not include the profit which accrues to the Scheme of Arrangement Involving The Penguin Publishing Company Ltd. is approved by the High Court on 28th October. This Scheme, details of which were circulated to shareholders on 2nd August, 1971, involves (inter alia) the issue of 4,331,250 new ordinary shares (thereby increasing the ordinary capital to £16,167,413).
- The charge for U.K. corporation tax is based on a rate of 40%. The comparative figure for 1970 has been adjusted and is based on the average rate of 40.625% charged for 1970.
- The results include profits of associated companies only to the extent of dividends receivable.

Dividends: The directors have declared an interim dividend on the ordinary share capital of 7½p (1970—7½p) payable, less income tax, on 24th November 1971, to all Shareholders on the register of members at the close of business on 25th October, 1971. Ordinary shareholders of Penguin on the register of members of Penguin on 27th October, 1971, will be entitled to receive an equivalent dividend if the Scheme of Arrangement is approved.

JPK 150

Shareholders Employees Customers Report to The Nation the partners in

SECURICOR

for the year ending October 1, 1971

by Keith Erskine, Managing Director

PROFITS TOP £1m FOR FIRST TIME: TURNOVER £25m

Unaudited profits are up from £13,000 before taxation to £1,000,000 and turnover from approximately £20m to £25m of which £3m was overseas. Ten years ago the figures were profits £30,000 and turnover £500,000. Growth has been consistent and organic almost without benefit of acquisition or capital injection—so, management has not been stretched to the level of its own competence.

No Rights Issue by our parent companies (Associated Hotels/ Kensington Palace Hotel) is on the horizon.

SECURITY TRANSPORT AND PAYPAK
Gratefully, not boastfully, we record that only £123,000 out of about twenty thousand million pounds carried in the last year was stolen. There were several abortive attacks. Our insurance rate was only 1p per £1,000 carried against the normal rate of unprotected transit of 15p to 25p. Bank work has surged for cash and data. Our men's bill reached a new high.

GUARDING
We have been thanked by our customers for our help in the aircraft anti-hijacking campaign. At short notice we produced

many good men, who were on the tarmac in all weathers. Screening and supervision techniques are becoming more sophisticated. Our London training school is now supplemented by five regional schools. Sir Frederick Delves continues to guide and inspire our anti-fire indoctrination.

OTHER SERVICES
Help-Litline, Store Detectives, Photo-identification, Burglar and Fire Alarms and other security services have steadily advanced.

OVERSEAS
We are in Malaya, Hong Kong, Singapore, Borneo, Kenya, Swaziland, Zambia, Uganda, Malawi, Malta, Ethiopia and Norway. Turnover and profits rose. We export security because we believe the British are good at it. At least we have the essentials, i.e., patience, fairness, integrity and some inventiveness. The Governments of these countries are aware, too, that we are loyal, independent and incorruptible; and we have the backing of the world insurance market.

OVERHEADS
In ten of our main branches we are installing computer terminals

linked to our data processing centre, now functioning at full efficiency. Despite increased turnover, we have been able to reduce our HQ staff by half and close two of our bigger London premises. Frugality is our watchword. Luxury is wasteful and weakening. Our overheads spread over a large turnover are, we believe, the lowest in the industry.

SECURICOR CARES
What was a proclamation of intent is becoming a statement of fact.

● For its customers. Examples: The way our men overcame fog, frost and snow to get the data to the banks by 9 am; and the company's work in assisting the overnight change to decimals.

● For its employees. Over the last 10 years, thanks to the Mutual Company, wages have risen more than the national wages index. This has helped us to recruit and retain a good type of guard.

● For the public good. Our courtesy campaign advances. We are increasingly accepted by the public, the police, the fire brigade and the Home Office as vital auxiliaries in crime and fire prevention.

THE CURRENT YEAR
Success, like failure, has its problems; but we cannot ignore Kipling's advice 'to treat those two impostors just the same', for his words are displayed in most of our branches. The struggle between good and bad has never been easy; but we face the current year with hopes as firm as before.

MORALE
The 'stick and carrot' idea is unworthy of our men. Carefully chosen and encouraged, they are by character among the salt of the nation. With the Mutual Company ensuring a just reward, our concern is that 'the job should challenge the worker'. We get the men's interest by explanation rather than order and by self-discipline rather than enforced discipline. The best ideas often come from below and are vented at regular meetings. Workers' participation in decision-making creates a sense of responsibility. The British artisan is not militant if he is wisely and justly led. Aldous Huxley said: 'It is a little embarrassing that after 45 years of research and study, the best advice I can give people is to be a little kinder to each other.' We are trying.

Aims of Securicor



- 1 To be among the most respected companies in the British Commonwealth.
- 2 To practise new and better methods of commerce.
- 3 To put principle before expediency and make sure our word is our bond.
- 4 Whilst not deviating from what is practical to enrol the idealism of youth.
- 5 To ignore class or race; to judge only by merit; to work in comradeship.
- 6 To divide more fairly the fruits of investment and work by means of the Mutual Company.
- 7 To combine what is best in public service, e.g., devotion to duty, with what is best in private enterprise, e.g., adaptability.
- 8 To express in the tangible terms of guarding and watching Man's regard for his neighbour and wish to serve him.

It is human to err. We in Securicor repent our errors; but slowly, painfully and persistently we are climbing to a peak of unimpeachable integrity where Service is an end, not just a means.

To those who object that these aims are too altruistic, we reply that they result in higher morale, more goodwill and abundant rewards to our mutual company partners. Business cannot be divorced from living—both should be nobly done.

Securicor cares for customers, employees and the public good



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CVO MC
Chairman
Former Assistant
Commissioner,
Metropolitan Police



Sir Richard Jackson
CBE
Joint Vice-Chairman
Former President
of Interpol



Sir Kenneth Bacon
CBE
Director
Former Deputy
Commissioner,
Metropolitan Police



Sir Frederick Delves
CBE
Director
Fire Prevention
Consultant
Former Chief Officer
London Fire Brigade



Sir Ronald Garmen
KCB CMG
Director
Communications
Former
Director-General
of the GPO



Keith Erskine
Managing Director



Lord Thorneycroft
PC
Director
Former Chancellor
of the Exchequer
and President of the
Board of Trade



The Lord Brooke
of Cumnor PC CBE
Director
Former
Home Secretary



Sir Charles Canningham
KCB KBE CVO
Director
Former Permanent
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State, Home Office



Lord Williamson
Director
Former Chairman
of the TUC



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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

We are a public company engaged in merchant and investment banking, consumer credit, insurance and property investment and development. To meet the continued expansion of the Group, we are enlarging our Legal Department and have the following positions to fill:

Head Office

A Solicitor to be based at the Group's head office in the City to assist the Group Solicitor in the provision of a legal service covering all aspects of the Group's activities other than consumer credit, and to deputise for him when necessary.

Responsibility will be to the Group Solicitor, but both positions call for close liaison with senior management in the day to day problems of the divisions of the Group.

Applicants for both positions should be aged between 28 and 40, have at least three years' broad commercial experience since qualifying, and ideally should presently be employed in a finance house or other similar institution or in a large commercially orientated firm of Solicitors.

These are senior appointments, carrying excellent prospects, for which the Group expects to pay substantial salaries, which will be negotiable but probably not less than £3,500 in each case, plus participation in an Executive Share Scheme and non-contributory Pension Scheme.

Applications, which will be treated in confidence, stating the position applied for and giving details of background and experience, should be sent to S. J. Clayman Esq., First National Finance Corporation Limited, City Wall House, Finsbury Pavement, London EC2P 2HJ.

FIRST NATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

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Investors Trust Ltd.

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FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS APPEAR TO-DAY ON PAGE 35

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With the Bank's help, Dale have established themselves as one of the leading manufacturers of electric generating sets in Britain – over seventy per cent of their output going abroad as exports.

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"The Midland are very much a partner in my business. Before we enter into anything, we discuss it with them; whenever we're exporting, we get tremendous backing from them."

It's a partnership that seems to pay off. This year alone, Dale have received the BNEC award for exports, the Queen's Award to Industry, and two years ago, Mr. Dale himself received the MBE.

As Leonard Dale says: "If anyone knows a better relationship with a bank, I'd like to hear about it."

The people from the Bank who have worked with Mr. Dale, we show below. It's the sort of team we can offer to anyone.

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Donald Hart,
Manager.
In close touch with
Mr. Dale. Previous
experience of foreign
work has provided
valuable insight into
the special banking
problems associated
with exports.

David Wilson,
Second Officer.
Supervises the
branch accounting,
safe custody, securi-
ties and foreign work
and deals with the
day-to-day problems
of visitors to this
holiday area.

Keith Ibbotson,
Foreign Clerk.
Handles the heavy
'Dale' foreign bill-
work and the con-
siderable foreign
exchange require-
ments of customers
travelling abroad.

Lesley Marshall,
Cashier.
A popular cashier
with several years
experience of help-
ing with the cash
requirements of all
the customers of
the branch.

Linda Bean,
Statements.
Responsible for book-
keeping operations
and the ever
increasing standing
order payments
at the branch.

Nuclear power for ships 'can be cheaper than oil'

BY DAVID FISHLOCK, SCIENCE EDITOR

FRESH BID to interest the nuclear ship would still be more expensive to build than an oil-powered vessel, but its non-polluting nature and the fact that its nuclear running expenses would be less than those of an oil-burner, U.S. General Electric and the U.S. Maritime Administration. Officials claimed that a nuclear propulsion system could now be built that would be cheaper than the propelling vessels of 600 shaft horsepower and upwards. It would consist of a reactor, described as a "fifth generation version" of the reactor installed in the S. Savannah, the world's only civil nuclear vessel, together with a steam turbine. While admitting that the vessels of more than 50,000 ship

Four briefings

Five nuclear tankers, he estimated, could do the work of eight oil-fired tankers, with a saving in fuel costs amounting to \$5m. a year. At least 25 vessels of more than 50,000 ship

were already under construction or on order around the world.

The briefing for shipping industry executives, the first of four to be held around the U.S. in a new effort to arouse interest in nuclear propulsion.

So far, it has produced no convincing evidence that nuclear propulsion offers margins great enough to offset the much greater lead time required for the construction of a nuclear vessel—several years longer than shipowners are accustomed to.

The British Government, in a report published earlier this year, concluded that nuclear marine propulsion was not yet economic.

Flexible pollution policy needed says CBI adviser

BY DAVID WALKER

FLEXIBLE policies on pollution control to ensure maximum benefit at minimum cost were urged yesterday by Mr. A. I. Biggs, chief technical adviser on pollution problems to the Confederation of British Industry.

Presenting a paper on pollution prevention and the production of goods, Mr. Biggs said that the annual conference on production engineering, economics and technology held by the Production Engineering Research Association, at Melton Mowbray, Mr. Biggs issued a warning that resources available for pollution abatement were not limitless.

Consultation

To achieve flexibility and ensure the requirements made were observed by industries discharging effluent of all kinds, there had to be continuing consultation between industry, Government and local authorities.

He emphasised it was the responsibility of management to make sure it was aware of existing legislation and also to take account in long term planning. It is also the responsibility of management to comply with this legislation and to adopt the

best practices and techniques which will enable this to be done in the most economic and satisfactory manner," Mr. Biggs continued.

There was likely to be increasing pressure in the future to abate pollution. The CBI, he assured the conference, was well aware of the need for industry to take an increasingly active part in work to contain and reduce pollution.

It had supported successive governments in enacting comprehensive legislation and was working closely with the departments involved and with enforcement authorities.

"The products of modern technology, from antibiotics to detergents and from plastics to pesticides, are all too often taken for granted, but they do contribute enormously to the national well-being," Mr. Biggs maintained.

With sound planning and an adequate knowledge of the elements which were being disposed of, together with consideration of the legal requirements, the technical capabilities and the costs involved in the abatement of pollution, work now being done on all sides would pay handsome dividends in the years ahead, he said.

Notice of Issue

Application for permission to deal in and for quotation for the undermentioned Stock has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange, London.

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Finsbury House, 22 Blomfield Street, London, E.C.2.

Quantity surveyor stresses role in financial management

OPLE WHO regard quantity surveyors as men who only count bricks are living in a past very different from the sophisticated and highly geared present, said Colin Wheeler, a chartered quantity surveyor, at a meeting of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors last night. He was sharing a platform with Roger Ferrand, of The Law Company, at a meeting on the Quantity Surveyor and Financial Management.

Involvement

Mr. Wheeler urged clients to make it clear from the start, not halfway through the project, who they attached the responsibility of controlled expenditure to. There was a need, he said, for involvement of the quantity surveyor at the earliest possible stage in design so that he was aware from the onset of design of the architect's intentions and approach to solving them. "The appointment of the quantity surveyor," he said, "leads to a state of time and money."

On the role of the leader of the professional team in construction, Mr. Wheeler remarked: "The architects are over-conscious of their unquestionable expertise of the team, and they look upon the quantity surveyor as a potential usurper or diluter of their command, while the quantity surveyor tends to become over-zealous in his management of cost matters and warped in his ideas as to the relative importance between money and design."

He did not, however, lay the blame at anybody's feet, he believed the success of a project was more often brought about by intelligent co-operation than by the predominance of any one party or individual involved.

Referring to clients appointing their quantity surveyor directly, Mr. Wheeler said that with this wider recognition of the quantity surveyor's role, there has been a tendency for contractors to feel they have lost a traditional buffer between themselves and client and the impartiality on matters of cost no longer exist.

"The development of financial

management techniques has no doubt done a great deal to foster this tendency," he maintained, but just as with architects and quantity surveyors, there were trainers to be experienced with contractors which were understandable.

Earlier, Mr. Roger Ferrand had suggested a need for the extension of professional co-operation, so as to ensure cost was kept in the original budget.

"Fortunately, the quantity surveyor is able to keep the entire job constantly under review, and his detailed knowledge of every aspect enable him to appreciate fully the implications of actions of others."

"In a sense he is also independent in that he is not directly involved in design, or supervision or making decisions, and is therefore less likely to find himself in dispute or disagreement within the professional team or with the contractor."

"This makes it easier for him to exercise financial management responsibilities as he will not have to monitor his own work or decisions."

Contribution

He said quantity surveyors had a significant contribution towards the future of the profession if they were able to agree among themselves and with architects and engineers, a recognised procedure for financial management.

Mr. Ferrand also said it would help to see proper fee scales laid down so the client could know the service he could expect and what it would cost.

Highlands £50,000 factory plan

By Andrew Hargrave

THE HIGHLANDS and Islands Development Board intends to spend about £50,000 on servicing and landscaping a 15-acre industrial estate at Muir of Ord, Ross-shire, next to the A9 trunk road.

"There is increasing interest by industrialists in the Highland area; and Easter Ross is perhaps one of the region's most attractive locations for a wide range of industries," said a spokesman yesterday.

"The sites—there are about ten of them—will be fully serviced, ready for lease and the immediate construction of factories," the spokesman added.

The Board bought the site last November as part of its effort to safeguard employment following the liquidation of the contractors Duncan Logan. Since then, five acres have been leased to two companies employing 36 people between them.

Jumbo jet flights top 210m. miles

THE BOEING 747 Jumbo jet has now carried more than 15m. passengers on 100,000 revenue flights, and has covered more than 210m. miles, since entering service in January, 1970.

Boeing says that more than 150 have been delivered to 25 airlines, and their total flying time is now nearly 3m. hours, including training and route-proving.

Latest airline reports from Boeing show total fleet average utilisation of 8.5 block hours per aircraft per day. In recent weeks, this has risen to 10 hours per aircraft per day.

Jumbos are now serving about 70 cities in 38 countries. Total orders at the end of September stood at 207 aircraft.

OBITUARY

Mr. J. Alan Thompson dies at 53

MR. J. ALAN THOMPSON, chairman and managing director of Woolcombers (Holdings), the largest combing-topmaking group in the world, died suddenly on Tuesday while on a business trip to Japan. He was 53.

Last May, he was appointed to the Board of Hillingworth Morris, which has been increasing its shareholding in Woolcombers in recent months, as vice-chairman. At the same time, he moved from being vice-chairman of Woolcombers, a post he had held since 1964, to chairman of the company.

He was also chairman of the Woolcombing Employers' Federation since 1963, and also of the TWT Combers' Group. His name will be linked with a policy of acquisitions by Woolcombers starting with Isaac Holden in 1963 and culminating with the takeover of its main competitor, the Aire Wool Group, late last year.

Presentations to-day of housing design awards

BY OUR ARCHITECTURE CORRESPONDENT

EDALS and diplomas will be presented to-day to 16 designers the winning schemes in this year's Award Scheme for Good Design in Housing. The awards will be made by Mr. Peter Walker, secretary for the Environment, at the Royal Institute of British Architects. Diplomas will also be presented to those who commissioned and built the schemes. In addition 18 schemes have been highly commended. The awards are promoted in collaboration with the RIBA to encourage a high standard of design, layout and landscaping in housing. The 271 entries were assessed under two heads:—

Local Authority, new town development or housing associations in developments of 20 or more dwellings of over 70 people to the acre, and developments of six or more dwellings at 70 people or fewer to the acre.

Schemes of six or more dwellings carried out or commissioned by private developers, including public sector schemes built for sale, and cost-rent and co-ownership housing society schemes.

Assessment also took account of building standards, workmanship and the satisfaction of occupants.

Building chiefs anxious over training plans

BY ELSBETH GANGLIN

IF FEDERATION of Master Builders has complained to Mr. Carr, Secretary for Employment, about the delay in announcing the Government's intentions on the future of the industrial training boards. This is causing the industry considerable concern, it said. In its letter to Mr. Carr, the federation recalls that a review of the industry was carried out in 1968. Since then the Construction Industry Training Board, particularly, has undergone a series of crises which have certainly created indecision and led to morale.

Organisations within the industry were also affected "because lack of knowledge of Government intentions makes it difficult for them to arrive at decisions regarding the future of training within the industry."

Unprejudiced has been raised by recent public statements from the chairman of the CITB that they had no knowledge what Government proposals were likely to be, and even on such proposals were to be set.

To us this indicates that, if a review is now taking place on industrial training, it is being done without consultation with the CITB or any of the major organisations within the industry. If this assumption is correct, such procedure would be a grave mistake. The industry has been in a state of confusion over the past years, based on the activities

ITB guide for supervisors

TO FILL the gap in the ranks of supervisors requiring specialist training to meet the growth of the glass-reinforced plastics industry, the Rubber and Plastics Processing Industry Training Board has published a booklet entitled "Guide Lines for the Training of Supervisors in the GRP Industry."

It sets out the level of supervisory skill and technical ability which the supervisor in a smaller company requires to control and lead operatives responsible to him. It touches also on the degree of technical expertise which he should have beyond that currently employed in his company processes.

The booklet makes the point that training can be carried out in the company, but it also includes a list of training establishments.



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FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

Manager
Finance and Planning

Keyser Ullmann Ltd., an old established and expanding merchant bank, wishes to recruit a Manager, Finance and Planning, for its Industrial and economic interests. This is a new appointment reporting to the Managing Director of Keyser Ullmann Industries Ltd. The work will be varied and will involve the assessment of business performance, analysis and strategic studies. The successful candidate will have previous industrial experience, some ability in business plan preparation and will be qualified in either accountancy or economics, or both. There are plans for early growth and future prospects are excellent. Age about 30 is probably right, but above all else, is the need for enthusiasm, discernment and organisational ability. An attractive starting salary will be offered. Fringe benefits include preferential mortgage and pension scheme. The location is London. Applications in writing should be addressed to the Managing Director, Keyser Ullmann Industries Ltd., 31 Throgmorton Street, London E.C.2, quoting ref. PPT/PT and should indicate how the applicant's requirements are met. Alternatively, for further information, telephone Mr. Vernon-Harcourt at 01-806 7070.



Keyser Ullmann Industries Ltd

County Bank

It is now two years since County Bank was launched in the City as the Merchant Banking arm of the National Westminster Bank Group. Growth has been rapid and deposits currently exceed £300 million.

The flow of Corporate Finance and Special Situation work is also increasing and therefore another Senior Executive is required.

Although reporting to Directors, this Executive will negotiate direct with clients and will be expected to bring operations to a successful conclusion. In addition to corporate advisory work, he will undertake both lending and equity participation propositions.

The age of the successful candidate will be in the region of 30. He will probably be a Chartered Accountant or a Lawyer, with merchant banking or similar experience.

Candidates, whose remuneration currently exceeds £3,500, should apply to A. J. Aman, County Bank Ltd., 76 Cornhill, London, E.C.3, with brief details of their background and experience.



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Financial
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We are looking for men who are qualified in accountancy (C.A. or A.C.W.A.), economics or business administration together with broad industrial finance experience, preferably but not essentially within the motor industry. Those direct from the profession might also be suitable provided they have experience of higher management problems.

The work is extremely broad in spectrum and international in nature. There are vacancies at various levels of responsibility. The main areas covered are—

Review of International Pricing;
profit and capital long term planning;
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The re-organisation of our finance operations has opened up several interesting opportunities in London. We will be pleased to discuss career prospects with men with Finance/Accounting backgrounds who consider they have the ability and ambition to play an important part in the Company's future.

We can offer you an environment in which imagination, creativity and real ability are amply rewarded both in remuneration and in freedom to put good ideas into practice. Career development programmes adapt to your individual interests with direction and speed of development well defined.

These opportunities are as close as your nearest post box, so write today with a brief outline of career to date to:

M. J. Stylianides
Manager, Personnel Administration,
68 Knightsbridge,
S.W.1.



CHRYSLER INTERNATIONAL S.A.

Financial Executive
North West London

Our client is a long established company, engaged in importing cigars and continental confectionery, which has recently become a subsidiary of a large U.S. conglomerate.

Reporting to the Managing Director, this new appointment will interest a Chartered Accountant, aged about 35. He will be responsible for establishing sound information systems, formulating financial policies, evaluating and advising the board on company investment programmes and also negotiating with merchant banks concerning further business acquisitions. Previous exposure to these activities and expertise in modern accounting techniques are essential.

The initial salary will be about £4,000 plus a car and the prospects of a board appointment are excellent.

Please write briefly and in confidence to Peter Barnett, Ref: C841.



McLintock Mann & Whitney Murray,
Management Consultants,
95 Southwark Street, London SE1 0JA.

Also at - Bristol, Birmingham, Cardiff, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester and Newcastle upon Tyne.

Management Accountant
(London)

On behalf of Clarksons Holidays Ltd., the largest inclusive tour operators in the U.K., we invite applications for the challenging position of MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT.

Age 35-35. Substantial educational and accountancy qualifications essential, together with considerable practical experience of designing and introducing management information systems, preferably in a service industry or consultancy. Tact and the ability to create and promote ideas vital.

Substantial salary. Applicants should now be earning within the range of £3,000-£4,000. Annual reviews. Bonus. Pension. Removal expenses. Holiday concessions.

Apply in GUARANTEED CONFIDENCE, stating telephone number, age, details of education and experience, names of firms, positions held with dates, starting and final salaries. Reference FT/MA/7180. Short-listed applicants can expect acknowledgement within fourteen days of receipt of application.

Dr. P. S. de Q. Cabot, Chairman,
P. S. CABOT & CO. LTD.,
37-41 Bedford Row, London, W.C.1

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We are looking for a senior accountant whose initial assignment, lasting about one year, will be in an administrative capacity in the reactivation of a major rural property in Sierra Leone. The role would require an individual capable of working in an unstructured environment and performing many non-accountancy duties. Once the property is producing, he would become the chief accountant supervising all the mine accounting functions.

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Please apply in the strictest confidence quoting reference number 1285 to Clive & Stokes, 14 Bolton Street, London, W1Y 8JL.

Clive & Stokes

Appointments & Personnel Consultants

An Accountant

Esperanza Trade and Transport Limited wants to appoint an accountant with a broad post-qualifying experience. He will have to be capable of taking an active role in investigation and planning of the group's expansion. Experience preferably commercial or industrial. Age around 30. Ability to accept personal responsibility is a most critical and important requirement. Opportunity is considerable in a rapidly growing group of companies. Starting salary for discussion but probably about £4,000.

Write personally to the Chief Executive,

Esperanza Trade and Transport Limited
11 Bolt Court, London, E.C.4

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Explore the possibilities available in Merchant, Foreign and Overseas Banks. Consult the City Specialists for excellent opportunities in all banking positions. Write, please, to:

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quoting reference PER/V/87

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Write Box A2293 Financial Times,
10 Cannon Street, E.C.4P 4BY.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS
APPEAR TODAY
ON PAGE 31

COMPANY NOTICES

BANK OF MONTREAL

Established 1817

DIVIDEND NO. 451.

EXTRA DIVIDEND NO. 452.

NOTICE is hereby given that a Dividend of TWENTY CENTS per share for the current quarter and an EXTRA DIVIDEND OF TWO CENTS per share for the year ending October 29th, 1971, upon the paid-up Capital Stock of this institution have been declared, both PAYABLE on and after Wednesday, the first day of December next, to Shareholders of record at the close of business on the 29th day of October, 1971.

Notice is hereby also given that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders will be held at the head office of the Bank, 129, St. James Street West, Montreal, on Monday December 13th, next.

The chair will be taken at 11 o'clock a.m.

By order of the Board,
C. W. HARRIS,
Vice-President and Secretary.

Montreal, October 19th, 1971.

CHILEAN EXTERNAL LONG TERM

DEBT, LAW NO. 6952

Chilean Government 5% Loan of 1971 (Second Series) of \$5,000,000 nominal capital

N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS LIMITED give notice that the coupons due 1st November, 1971 from bonds of the above mentioned loan which have been deposited to indicate attendance at the 1971 Plan may now be lodged with them listed on the special forms which can be obtained on application.

Coupons will be received on any business day and must be left for an appropriate period for examination. Coupons must be handed in personally and cannot be accepted through the post.

St. Swinburn's Lane, London EC4P 4BU, 21st October, 1971.

CITY & COUNTY BOROUGH OF SWANSEA

£1,000,000 City & County Borough of Swansea Bills maturing on 30th March, 1972, at a discount rate of 4 1/2% per annum. These are the only City & County Bonds for Swansea Bills outstanding.

BRAZILIAN STERLING LOANS:

DECEASED LAW NO. 6019

N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS LIMITED

announces that the coupons due 1st

November, 1971 from overdraft bonds

of the loan specified below may now be

lodged with the savings agents listed on

the special forms which can be obtained

on application.

The loans concerned and the relative

paying agents are—

State of Bahia 5 1/2% Paying Agent

Gold Loan 1964 5 1/2% Bank of London

City of Pernambuco 5 1/2% Limited

Recife 5 1/2% Limited

Plan A 5 1/2% Limited

Plan B 5 1/2% Limited

Coupons will be received on any

business day and must be left for an

appropriate period for examination.

Coupons must be handed in personally

and cannot be accepted through the post.

St. Swinburn's Lane, London EC4P 4BU,

21st October, 1971.

C.N.A. INVESTMENTS LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND ON 5 PER

CENT SHAREHOLDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a

Dividend of 5% per share (equivalent

to 5 pence) will be paid on 1st

December 1971 to Shareholders of

record at the close of business on 1st

November 1971. The dividend will be

paid in cash or by cheque at the

option of the Shareholder. The dividend

will be paid at the head office of the

Company, 63 Broad Street, London, W1X 3AA.

HUNTER DOUGLAS LIMITED

(Incorporated under the Companies Act, Quebec, Canada)

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL

MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO

SHAREHOLDERS OF HUNTER DOUGLAS

LIMITED that a Special General Meeting

of Shareholders will be held at the

Bank of Canada Building, 2nd Floor, 20,

King Street West, Toronto, Ontario, M5X 1C5,

on the 25th day of October, 1971, at

10 o'clock a.m. for the following purposes:

1. To consider and, if deemed advisable,

approve or ratify the proposed

business and financial statements of the

Company for the year ended 30th September,

1971, and to authorize the Directors

to take such action as may be deemed

advisable in connection therewith.

2. To transact such other business as may

properly come before the meeting.

Shareholders are requested to attend the

meeting in person or by proxy. Proxies

may be executed in writing and deposited

with the Company's Secretary at least

seven days before the meeting. The

Company's Charter is hereby amended so

that the quorum for the meeting shall be

a majority of the shares then outstanding.

By Order of the Board,
18th October, 1971.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

County Council of Essex has placed on

an average rate of 4.50% per annum

of 4.50% per annum. These bills will

maturing on 12th January 1972, and are

the only Essex Bills outstanding.

J. R. GREEN,
County Treasurer.

GRATTAN WAREHOUSES LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

Registers of Ordinary Shareholders will be

closed from the 1st November to the

31st November 1971. All dividends due

for the purpose of ascertaining interim

dividends will be payable on the 19th

November, 1971.

By Order of the Board,
K. M. GRAY, F.C.A.,
Secretary.

MORRIS & BLANEY WALL PAPERS

LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

Registers of the Ordinary and "A" Ord.

Shares of the Company will be closed for one day

only on the 25th October, 1971.

By Order of the Board,
11 Broad Street, W.C.2, C. CLAYTON,
21st October, 1971.

SOUTHWEND-ON-SEA CORPORATION

BILLS

£500,000 Southend-on-Sea Corporation

Bills maturing on 19th January, 1972

were issued on 25th October, 1971 at a

discount rate of 4 1/2% per annum. This

makes a total of £1,250,000 Southend-on-

Sea Corporation Bills in issue.

THE HIGHLAND DISTILLERS

COMPANY, LIMITED

The Transfer Books of the Company

will be closed from 25th October, 1971, to a

date to be notified. All dividends due

will be paid on the 25th October, 1971.

By Order of the Board,
106 West Nile Street,
Glasgow, C.1.

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SERCK AUDCO VALVES FOR ALL SERVICES

INDUSTRIAL VALVES

FINANCIAL
TIMES
SURVEY

Europe could redress home decline

By ANDY McELROY

Cut-back in investment, particularly in the oil and chemical industries, has dealt a substantial blow to the manufacturers of industrial valves. As second-line suppliers, they are severely affected by any loss of confidence in the primary suppliers, and also by the immediate reduction in orders by the final customers.

At present, the situation is that the makers are fighting for an increasing share of a fairly static market, both at home and overseas. Inflation is eroding profit margins, and financially there is little slack for investment in development and production equipment for future growth when capital investment begins to grow again.

Although detailed figures for the current year are not yet available, a spokesman for the British Valve Manufacturers' Association hazarded the opinion that deliveries this year would be about the same as during 1970, and perhaps even slightly greater. But he emphasised that this in itself does not reflect the true position, since many of the deliveries will be against orders for plant initially made three or even four years ago.

As to the state of order books, it is anyone's guess. Several companies are obviously swimming against the economic tide and logging increased business, while others are reluctant to concede any information on their prospects in the immediate future.

Overseas sales

It is significant, however, that the organisations who are willing to talk about increased orders are those which are deeply involved in overseas sales, and who have made a consistent effort to increase their penetration of overseas markets. Over the past three years there has been a notable divergence of attitudes among valve companies. One group has made strenuous efforts to provide the metric sizes demanded by European users, while another has seen the U.K. market as its primary concern, while bowing to European needs by metricating port sizes and very little else. In addition, this latter group has been concerned with exploiting its home market rather than spending scarce resources on development of new customers.

While exports, from the abstract point of view, are desirable for the country's health and for the health of companies, yet there is much to be said for the cautious approach. Profit margins in Europe and the United States are suffering because of competition from lower-priced components, notably of Japanese and Italian origins. So far, these countries have made little impact in Britain, but the time is bound to come when imports will be competing with native products.

However, there is one consolation for the exporter—the slower rate of decline of capital investment in Europe than in the U.K. Obviously, much of the cutting back in Britain has been caused by the generally unfavourable economic climate, while countries such as France, Germany, and the Eastern Bloc in particular are suffering less from decline in demand. It is conceivable, in fact, that those companies with large export business will show substantially better trading figures and order books at the end of this year, although the effect on overall profits will be a different matter entirely.

When one is considering the competitiveness of any sector of British industry in comparison to its overseas counterparts, there is a natural temptation to equate efficiency and commercial success with technological innovation. In valves as in so many other sectors of engineering this is largely a red herring diverting attention from the real factors affecting sales.

From the design point of view, there is little that can be done to improve on the present existing types of valve. Changes are in detail only, and the gap between drawing board and final application so extended that competing companies are, generally speaking, at about the same level of technical excellence.

But in foreign markets, British valves are able to compete successfully because of these detailed improvements. Small and insignificant changes in component design, allied to regularly updated production methods has produced a situation where British valves are distinguished from the competition by being smaller and better finished. Although re-

duction in overall size may seem unimportant, to the plant designer it often means a saving on overall cost as well as a more compact installation.

Better finish also implies closer tolerances, and this is a primary requirement in valves for process control where operation of the plant is automatic and the degree of closure must be exactly specified.

Research work

From this it would seem that the industry as a whole is neglecting technical development, but this is far from being the case. The improved materials that are being used for seals and bearing surfaces are the result of long-term research and development, and modern valves, whatever their origin, owe much of their excellence to research and pioneering work carried out here.

Currently, the emphasis in the industry, as far as technology is concerned, hinges on new materials. Now, apart from better surfaces and so on, several companies are showing a great deal of interest in plastics for major valve components. There are, of course, already a number of all-plastic valves made in the U.K. and overseas, but they are limited in their range of applications, generally because of temperature considerations.

However, plastics development is already bearing fruit. Filled plastics and high-temperature polymers are constantly extending the useful temperature range, and although in the vast majority of process applications there is still no substitute for the all-metal valve, this situation is likely to change radically within five years.

Despite the German reputation for plastics expertise, it again seems likely that it will be a British company that will lead the field in this, and it is believed that there will be a major announcement on medium-temperature plastic valves early in 1972.

As with so many component industries, valve manufacture is bedevilled by the range of products of different types and sizes demanded by customers.

This alone militates against production efficiency and keeps production efficiency and keeps fits down. This situation has been made very much worse by the demands of European customers for metric versions, but at last the industry can see some light at the end of the tunnel.

On the whole, the industry is strongly in favour of entry into the Common Market, and is looking forward to full metrication in Britain. Primarily, membership of the EEC will open up the whole of Europe, although it will also increase competition at home. Free entry to the Continent will mean that virtually every type of valve will be converted to metric standards, and when, eventually, metric sizes are adopted in Britain, the industry will have a fully developed and proven range for home customers.

One cannot help but sympathise with the valve industry (as, indeed, with so many others) which has been caught in a recession just before the EEC entry negotiations began to bear fruit. Now, if at any time since the war, it would have been an advantage to have a flourishing and profitable home trade to use as a base for a launch into Europe. Since this is not so, it is inevitable that the industry will go through at least one or two very lean years where there will be little to show on the balance sheet for all its efforts.

Little despondency

Bad as this may be, few companies are despondent about the situation. As an industry, valves have been subject to periodic fluctuations since the war, and have learned to ride them, if not with complete equanimity, at least with the absence of vertigo that has affected other industries in the same situation.

There are already signs that the rate of industrial investment may soon turn up again in the U.K., and that European development will carry on with only the mildest of hiccups.

If these indications are borne out in practice, it should help the U.K. valve industry to gear up its production and marketing organisations ready to take a firm lead in Europe.

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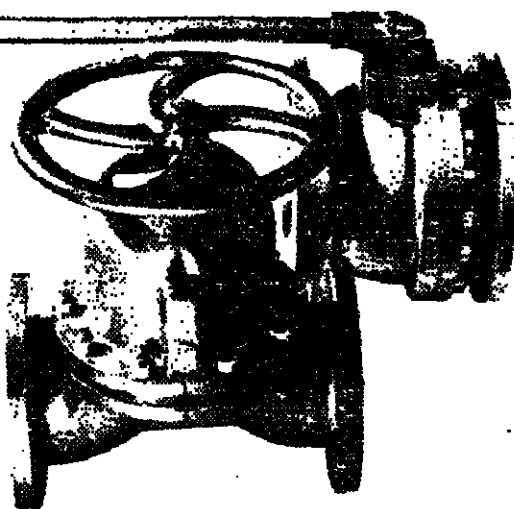
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New developments

By a Correspondent

It is characteristic of industry as a whole that it is becoming more capital intensive and less labour intensive. This is particularly true of the process industries and the generation of electricity and distribution of gas.

But the corollary to this is that the demands of a efficiency and a reasonable profit margin dictate that expensive equipment must be run at higher flow rates, temperatures and pressures. In the chemical industry this is the only way to obtain maximum yield. In addition, chemical plant is making increasing use of automatic control systems, for two main reasons.

First, completely automatic monitoring and control of the parameters affecting a process allow it to be run much more profitably than is possible with even the best manual operation. Secondly, in the event of a process running out of its preset limits an automatic system can react and shut down before damage is done to expensive plant. These two considerations—increased working stresses and the demands of automation—have placed much greater responsibility on the component manufacturers, and particularly on the suppliers of valves.

Further constraint

But there is a third constraint, applying to makers of shut-off valves, and this is the demand from customers for devices that will allow them to isolate one part of an installation for servicing and maintenance without closing down the whole plant.

An indication of the importance of this is that, while ten years ago the average output of a power station was between 25 and 30 MW, the figure is now, in Britain, 500MW. In the U.S. the corresponding output in this country provide valves

some cases is as much as 1,000 to 1,200 MW.

Although these larger generating sets have allowed the generating cost of power to be lower than with smaller sets, the financial consequences of even a short period out of service can be enormous. Thus, the quick, easy and absolute isolation of any section of the plant is absolutely essential. These principles apply to all processes where it is necessary to keep production going through all operational conditions.

Many of the valves manufactured by British companies are of this isolator type, exemplified by those made by Metro-Flex. Design improvements over the past few years have been aimed principally at shortening the closure times of these valves and improving the sealing properties. These are now exceptionally good. While the closing time of an isolator is not critical, it can be closed rapidly either manually or by motor drive. In addition, sealing efficiencies against gas are commonly in the region of 100 per cent.

Valves of this type are widely applied in industries such as steelmaking as well as in power plants, and in fact they can rapidly repay their cost through savings in maintenance downtime in any installation where it is necessary to seal off a part of a plant from the rest.

Normally, however, the types of valve most widely encountered in industry are the proportional types, controlling flow rates, and those giving intermittent open and close operation for supplying items such as press equipment. These can be either manually or mechanically actuated, but it is in the latter category that the fullest source of power is weak, especially if it is an electrical signal taken directly from an electronic control system.

Only a very few of the total number of valve manufacturers in this country provide valves

of this type. Flowstream International, an ITC company, and Serck Audco being two well-known examples.

Flowstream's extensive range of process control valves, built up in only ten years, includes models to suit virtually every type of control application. The range includes diaphragm valves, butterfly types, and the piston types, with various porting arrangements and in different materials and mounting arrangements. This company also provides, in most models, alternative methods of valve actuation, so that the plant engineer is able to choose the method that suits the overall design of the installation.

Ball valves

Serck-Audco, on the other hand, concentrates its production mainly on butterfly and ball valves, and it is noted for its excellence in this latter type. The notable advantage of the ball valve is its ease of operation, either manually or mechanically, smoothness and, since modern seal materials have been adopted, its long maintenance-free life.

One of the Serck-Audco ball valve types is designed for double duty, in fact. Under normal operating conditions it is a flow control valve, but when closed it will form a positive seal even in the event of a plant fire which burns the seal. Combined with an automatic fail-safe device it is a useful precaution in safeguarding expensive installations by stopping the spread of fire.

Continued on next page

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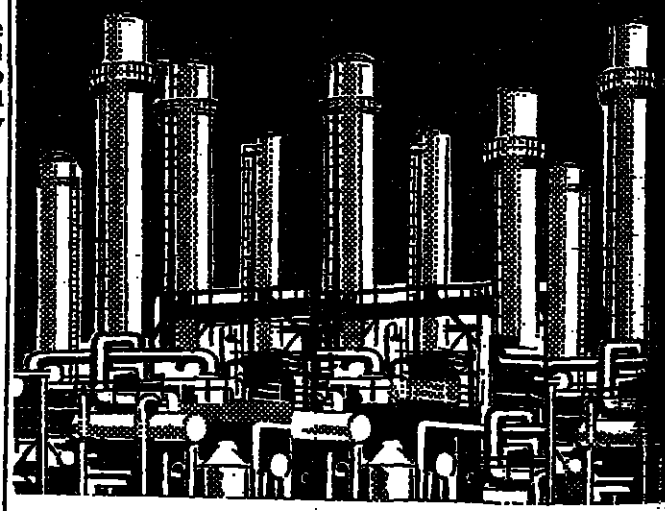
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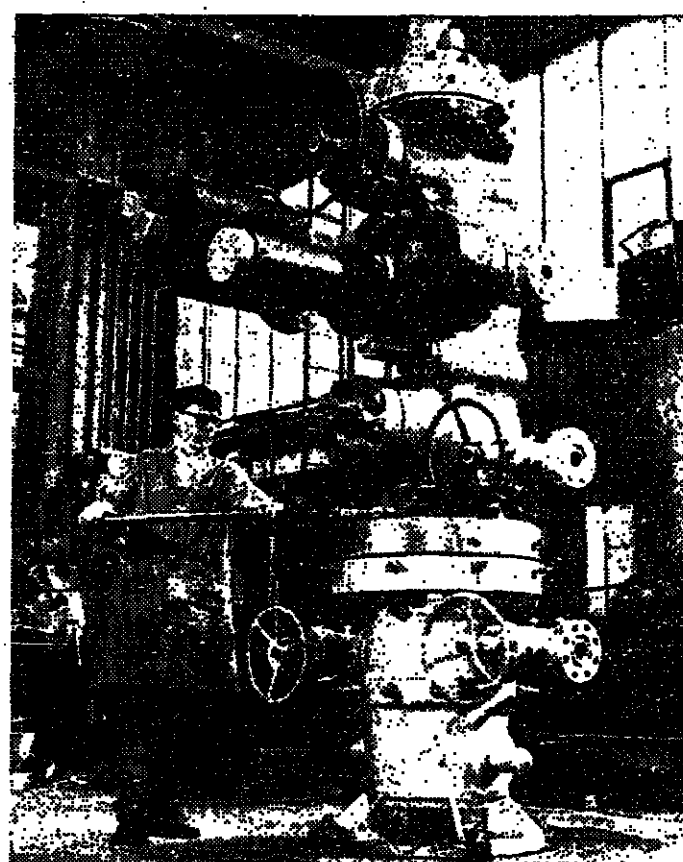
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One of ten Newman-McEvoy "Speed-Head" Christmas tree assemblies which will be used on the Conoco/NCB North Viking natural gas drilling platform.

Product planning crux

By TONY MORSE, Editor, Process Engineering

Ask any plant manufacturer what his biggest problem is and the answer would probably be production planning. It is difficult to balance stock control against market demand to meet delivery dates while maintaining order intake and keeping the capital locked up in stock at a low enough level to produce the profitability figures demanded by the shareholders. But the valve manufacturer is particularly susceptible.

The variety of common industrial valves is one problem. These can include ball, butterfly, globe, check, needle, non-return, reducing, vacuum, rotary, slide or relief valves. They can be hand, spring, pneumatic, sole-

noid, fluidic or electrically operated, and they often need to be manufactured from forgings or castings, in practically any metal, alloy or plastics material. They can be glass, plastics or rubber lined to operate under corrosive conditions, or steam jacketed to function under cryogenic conditions. And the size of ball valves, for instance, can range from 1/4-inch to 5 feet in diameter, costing from a few pounds sterling to something on top of the price of a Rolls-Royce.

While valves are used throughout industry, nowhere are they more important than in the process industries. It has been estimated that as much as 30-35 per cent of all valves sold in the U.K. find their way into the chemical, petrochemical and oil processing industry, with a further 9-13 per cent used in the gas industry. And it is this multi-national processing industry with its high design and manufacturing standards and its susceptibility to investment peaks and troughs which has to some extent created the problem of stock control or production planning for the manufacturer.

To try and ease this indigestion-starvation cycle, selling in the export market via agents and licence agreements is normal business practice. But this of course is a two-way trade, even if at present U.K. manufacturers are holding their own. Of the £90m. valves delivered by U.K. manufacturers in 1969, £37.3m. were exported while imports totalled £18.6m., giving a net U.K. delivery figure of £71.3m.

Better figures

The provisional figures for 1970 are even better, being £112m. delivered, £44m. to the export market with only £21.7m. imported. Net U.K. deliveries amount to £89.7m. so that on the face of it the rate of increase of exports is greater than that of imports.

Both U.K. and foreign companies tend to operate through

licensees or agencies, or at most a small subsidiary marketing company. In this way plant manufacture can be centralised in one country and expenditure on stocks and manufacturing equipment minimised.

Where is the pressure coming from for U.K. manufacturers? As might be expected the Japanese are doing well in the plastics valve market, while Holland and the Scandinavian countries, particularly Sweden, are the main competitors on high pressure steam duties where gate valves are used. But most U.K. companies have a foothold on the Continent including Serck Audco. This Serck Group member has a 50 per cent holding in Dikkers and Co. of Holland which in turn is jointly owned by Rockwell Audco SA of Switzerland. The company mainly markets gate valves, but Rockwell hasn't put all its eggs in one basket; it also has a tie-up with Hattersley Newman Hender on other product lines.

Low pressure steam

For low pressure steam up to 200 deg. C the ball valve is in its element. Competition here stems mainly from Germany and the U.S. — generally regarded as the birthplace of the modern ball valve. Some of its advantages include complete shut-off, long life, quarter turn operation, resistance to corrosion and most important compactness. This means light weight, reduced installation costs and less strain on structural supports.

Serck at one time operated a joint company with the Jamesbury Corporation of Worcester, Massachusetts, but this has recently been merged with the Serck Audco Division at Newport, Shropshire. And the division now has one of the most advanced valve production units in Europe. In 1970 Serck Audco won the Queen's Award to Industry for its pioneer work in Group Technology, a mass production technique. The tech-

nique has cut delivery times and improved productivity.

In addition to the Dutch company, Serck Audco has interests in Germany, Belgium, South Africa, France, Italy and the Far East, so it has not only solved the production problem, but set up the marketing outlets for its products. These include gate, globe, plug and diaphragm and butterfly valves as well as ball valves.

On the control valve scene there is even more reason to set up licensing agreements. Control valves are precise instruments and taking a licence is one way of avoiding capital expenditure on building up expensive design and calibration data. Here again market awareness and stock control is important to achieve profitability.

Just over two years ago Crane Ltd. completed licensing arrangements with Guidelarmaturen KG of Ludwigshafen for the manufacture and marketing in the Western hemisphere of its highly successful control valve and this is begin-

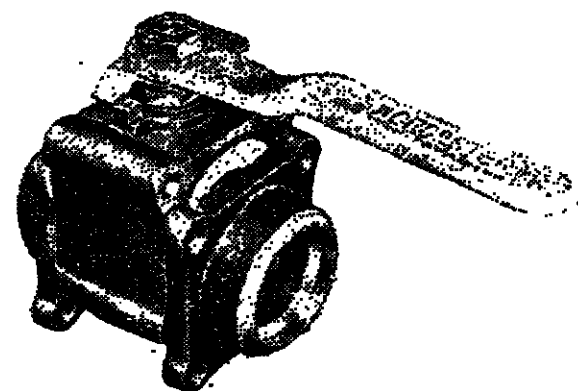
ning to pay off with £100,000 of orders in recent months. Crane's production has been centred at the Glenfield and Kennedy plant in Kilmaronock and valve construction is to metric standards. This means that parts are completely interchangeable and Crane has already bailed Guide out of trouble more than once.

U.S. initiative

Not all companies market from long range. The U.S. forging specialists, Cameron Iron Works, took the plunge into the U.K. some years ago and is now manufacturing its high quality forged ball valves at Livingstone in Scotland. But even here the valves are marketed throughout Europe and market policy is co-ordinated with the rest of the company's plants and offices throughout the world.

In short, licensing agents and subsidiary company outlets are vital to any valve manufacturer and although EEC entry will produce some rationalisation in the industry, two-way marketing in this way will still continue.

It's only natural that the company who pioneered development of the ball valve should now sell more ball valves than any other manufacturer in the world.



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WALL STREET OVERSEAS MARKETS

Down 2 on Mutual Fund redemptions

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BY OUR WALL STREET CORRESPONDENT

DESPITE NEWS of a prime rate cut, Wall Street was hit fairly severely again today following news that Mutual Fund redemptions last month outpaced sales by a record \$168m, and cut the cash position to 4.7 per cent from 5.6 per cent to \$185m.

After firming 0.32 to 866.65, the Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped to 855.85, for a net fall of 12.78, while the NYSE All Common Index was down 72 points to 825.85. Volume further expanded 3.5m. shares to 16.34m, while declines led gains by 1103 to 527.

There was also continued uncertainty about the administration's Phase Two economic programme, Denmark's imposition of an import surcharge and international monetary questions.

In Blue Chip General Electric were off \$1 to \$60, Swift declined \$2 to \$34, Union Carbide fell \$1 to \$49, Westinghouse was down \$1 to \$28, Woodward shed \$1 to \$47, and Eastman Kodak dipped \$1 to \$84.

Among Glamours, Natomax fell \$1 to \$34, Lerma was down \$2 to \$33, and ADEM shed \$1 to \$100.

Corning Glass, which did not open yesterday, dropped a further \$1 to \$182.

Among issues reporting third quarter results, National Cash Register shed \$1 to \$39, Studebaker Working Ltd fell \$1 to \$41 and Polaroid were down \$3 to \$88.

Among companies reporting higher earnings Bausch and Lomb fell \$1 to \$18, Maytag eased \$1 to \$38, and Jim Walter shed \$1 to \$40.

In Airlines TWA gained \$1 to \$34.

National Can topped the active list but fell \$4 to \$19. First National City lost \$1 to \$40, and Caterpillar Tractor declined another \$2 to \$43.

Despite a drop of \$3 to \$19 in active trading, American Cyanamid fell \$2 to \$30 and Eli Lilly gave way \$3 to \$31.

Scott Paper were down \$3 to \$15, but it revived its regular dividend and was the subject of adverse press comment.

The American SE Index was down 26 cents to \$24.92 in a volume of 4.39m. (4.1m.) shares. Declines led advances by a seven to two margin.

Champion Home topped the active list and lost \$1 to \$19, but STP edged up \$1 to \$19 despite its reported sharply lower profits.

Presley Development dropped \$4 to \$37, Syntex lost \$2 to \$84, Tesoro Petroleum fell \$1 to \$33 and the Corp. of America slipped \$1 to \$20.

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In lower Bonds, Public issues lost up to 1 point.

BRUSSELS—Quiet and little changed. Petrofina further declined Frs.60 and Cie Lambert also fell back Frs.60 on profit-taking. ACEC firm Frs.12. American Petrofina were lower but Canadian Petrofina were maintained.

In the Foreign sector, Golds, Dutch, French issues were maintained. Amsterdams, Internationals were irregular, as were Shipings and Plantations. Most local Industrials were led down by Albert Heijn and Heineken, VNU featured in Publishers, rising Frs.5.30 to Frs.105.50.

Banks held steady. Investment Funds continued their recent decline and Insurances were fractionally lower.

State Loans were steady.

SWITZERLAND—Markets closed very steady in limited volume, following some short-covering and speculative buying.

Brown Boveri and Sandoz each firmed. In irregular Financials,

interlocked recouped part of Tuesday's loss.

Banks and Insurances were barely changed.

State Bonds were steady.

Dollar stocks were firm, Dutch shares maintained, but Germans lost ground.

MILAN—Markets were irregularly higher. Fiat gained Lire 16 to 2,094, while Pirelli Spa put on Lire 14 to 1,938. Sals Viscosa rose a further Lire 15 to 1,954. Insurances tended firmer, with Assicurazioni Generali up Lire 400 to 50,800.

Profit-taking pared recent gains in the Bond market.

STOCKHOLM—Irregular trend. OSLO—All sectors firm.

VIENNA—Quiet but with considerable demand for Perimeter. Banks and Insurances were Htz changed, as were Breweries, Metals were irregular and Mines maintained.

COPENHAGEN—Mixed and generally uncertain in moderate activity. Banks were little

changed while Communications were easier.

JOHANNESBURG—Volume picked up and the market closed firmer. Golds were selectively harder on local and London interest. Financials were generally untested.

Industrials were quiet and featureless.

TOKYO—Moderately lower in limited trading—180m. (85m.) shares. But late selective interest in Electric, Camera and some "popular" issues helped the market to recover some ground lost earlier. Dealers were encouraged by purchases by Foreign investors in some Electric items and also buying by major Securities firms.

Matsumita Communication gained Yen 48 to 798, Sony Yen 23 to 710, Pioneer Yen 42 to 860 and Fujitsu Yen 21 to 325. Nippon Kogaku rose Yen 17 to 355 and Canon Camera added Yen 2 to 145.

Some speculative stocks were in demand, with Green Cross Yen 14 higher at 297, while Nippon Catalytic edged up in anticipation of good results.

Yen 10 at 740, Fuji Photo Film Yen 16 at 340, Showa Oil Yen 15 at 126, Nissan Motor Yen 13 at 126, and Tokyo Express Yen 14 at 174.

Fisheries and Foodstuffs were generally lower.

AUSTRALIA—"Heavyweight" Mines were generally lower. "Speculative" remained nervous. Metals were variable, while Industrials were mixed.

CRA lost 11 cents to \$5.77, Hamersley 10 cents to \$2.70, and Broken Hill South 4 cents to \$2.12 bid on its report of lower ore reserves at Broken Hill.

In Copper, Peke Walsend were off 6 cents to \$6.64.

WMC shed 5 cents to \$2.55 and Great Boulder eased 2 cents to \$1.75.

Poseidon fell 25 cents to \$14.75.

In Uranium, Queensland Mines were steady at \$3.70, while Kathleen rose 10 cents to \$2.70.

General on 5 cents to 99 cents on rumours of a pending report on its Northern Territory uranium prospect.

Selkirk lost 5 cents to \$1.20, while Creek dipped 10 cents to \$3.40.

Among Oils, NSW Oil and Gas were 1 cent off at 28 cents after 23 cents, while Magellan fell 3 cents to \$1.42. Woodside gained 4 cents to \$4 cents.

UCCB (Union Chimique Belge) preliminary report divided. B.F.130 for 16-month accounting period, ending December 31. For year ended August 31, 1970, company also paid net dividend of 100 francs.

Extraordinary shareholders' meeting in December last year approved change-over to calendar year accounting from January 1, 1972.

Investment & Premium (based on \$2.40 per £1 1971 (200%))

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Stock	Oct. 19	Oct. 20	Oct. 21
AT&T	41	40	39
Am. Express	34	33	32
Am. Intl. Corp.	31	30	29
Am. Overseas	28	27	26
Am. Petroleum	25	24	23
Am. Telephone	22	21	20
Am. Water	19	18	17
Am. Zinc	16	15	14
Am. Copper	13	12	11
Am. Nickel	10	9	8
Am. Lead	7	6	5
Am. Tin	4	3	2
Am. Silver	1	0	0

STANDARD AND POORS U.S. STOCK INDICES

Index	Oct. 19	Oct. 20	Oct. 21
Composite	100.00	99.50	99.00
Industrial	100.00	99.50	99.00
Transportation	100.00	99.50	99.00
Utilities	100.00	99.50	99.00
Finance	100.00	99.50	99.00
Insurance	100.00	99.50	99.00
Real Estate	100.00	99.50	99.00
Government	100.00	99.50	99.00
Foreign	100.00	99.50	99.00
Commodities	100.00	99.50	99.00
Energy	100.00	99.50	99.00
Healthcare	100.00	99.50	99.00
Technology	100.00	99.50	99.00
Telecommunications	100.00	99.50	99.00
Consumer Goods	100.00	99.50	99.00
Food & Beverage	100.00	99.50	99.00
Textiles	100.00	99.50	99.00
Chemicals	100.00	99.50	99.00
Metals	100.00	99.50	99.00
Minerals	100.00	99.50	99.00
Energy	100.00	99.50	99.00
Healthcare	100.00	99.50	99.00
Technology	100.00	99.50	99.00
Telecommunications	100.00	99.50	99.00
Consumer Goods	100.00	99.50	99.00
Food & Beverage	100.00	99.50	99.00
Textiles	100.00	99.50	99.00
Chemicals	100.00	99.50	99.00
Metals	100.00	99.50	99.00
Minerals	100.00	99.50	99.00

IND. DIVIDEND YIELD p.c.

Index	Oct. 19	Oct. 20	Oct. 21
Composite	3.61	3.55	3.50
Industrial	3.61	3.55	3.50
Transportation	3.61	3.55	3.50
Utilities	3.61	3.55	3.50
Finance	3.61	3.55	3.50
Insurance	3.61	3.55	3.50
Real Estate	3.61	3.55	3.50
Government	3.61	3.55	3.50
Foreign	3.61	3.55	3.50
Commodities	3.61	3.55	3.50
Energy	3.61	3.55	3.50
Healthcare	3.61	3.55	3.50
Technology	3.61	3.55	3.50
Telecommunications	3.61	3.55	3.50
Consumer Goods	3.61	3.55	3.50
Food & Beverage	3.61	3.55	3.50
Textiles	3.61	3.55	3.50
Chemicals	3.61	3.55	3.50
Metals	3.61	3.55	3.50
Minerals	3.61	3.55	3.50

N.Y. SE ALL COMMON INDEX

Index	Oct. 19	Oct. 20	Oct. 21
Composite	825.85	825.85	825.85
Industrial	825.85	825.85	825.85
Transportation	825.85	825.85	825.85
Utilities	825.85	825.85	825.85
Finance	825.85	825.85	825.85
Insurance	825.85	825.85	825.85
Real Estate	825.85	825.85	825.85
Government	825.85	825.85	825.85
Foreign	825.85	825.85	825.85
Commodities	825.85	825.85	825.85
Energy	825.85	825.85	825.85
Healthcare	825.85	825.85	825.85
Technology	825.85	825.85	825.85
Telecommunications	825.85	825.85	825.85
Consumer Goods	825.85	825.85	825.85
Food & Beverage	825.85	825.85	825.85
Textiles	825.85	825.85	825.85
Chemicals	825.85	825.85	825.85
Metals	825.85	825.85	825.85
Minerals	825.85	825.85	825.85

AMERICAN SE ALL STOCKS

Index	Oct. 19	Oct. 20	Oct. 21
Composite	24.92	24.92	24.92
Industrial	24.92	24.92	24.92
Transportation	24.92	24.92	24.92
Utilities	24.92	24.92	24.92
Finance	24.92	24.92	24.92
Insurance	24.92	24.92	24.92
Real Estate	24.92	24.92	24.92
Government	24.92	24.92	24.92
Foreign	24.92	24.92	24.92
Commodities	24.92	24.92	24.92
Energy	24.92	24.92	24.92
Healthcare	24.92	24.92	24.92
Technology	24.92	24.92	24.92
Telecommunications	24.92	24.92	24.92
Consumer Goods	24.92	24.92	24.92
Food & Beverage	24.92	24.92	24.92
Textiles	24.92	24.92	24.92
Chemicals	24.92	24.92	24.92
Metals	24.92	24.92	24.92
Minerals	24.92	24.92	24.92

JOHANNESBURG

Stock	Oct. 19	Oct. 20	Oct. 21
Anglo American	100	99	98
De Beers	80	79	78
Gold Fields	60	59	58
Impress	40	39	38
Lonrho	20	19	18
Minerals	10	9	8
Platinum	5	4	3
Steel	2	1	0
Textiles	1	0	0
Transportation	0	0	0
Utilities	0	0	0
Finance	0	0	0
Insurance	0	0	0
Real Estate	0	0	0
Government	0	0	0
Foreign	0	0	0
Commodities	0	0	0
Energy	0	0	0
Healthcare	0	0	0
Technology	0	0	0
Telecommunications	0	0	0
Consumer Goods	0	0	0
Food & Beverage	0	0	0
Textiles	0	0	0
Chemicals	0	0	0
Metals	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0

FRUSTS, BANKS & BONDS

Index	Oct. 19	Oct. 20	Oct. 21
Composite	100.00	99.50	99.00
Industrial	100.00	99.50	99.00
Transportation	100.00	99.50	99.00
Utilities	100.00	99.50	99.00
Finance	100.00	99.50	99.00
Insurance	100.00	99.50	99.00
Real Estate	100.00	99.50	99.00
Government	100.00	99.50	99.00
Foreign	100.00	99.50	99.00
Commodities	100.00	99.50	99.00
Energy	100.00	99.50	99.00
Healthcare	100.00	99.50	

ENGINEERING AND METAL—Gen. Cont.										HOTELS AND CATERERS—Cont.									
1971					1970					1971					1970				
High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
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232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
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232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8		274	1.5	238	1.8	
232	105	Hart's Ryegrass	285		274														

TEAS—Continued

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Index fell 2.8 to 412.4

ANSWER
THATPHONEAn unanswered
phone is bad
business. Install
ROBOPHONE—
TELEPHONE ANSWERING SYSTEMS
PHONE: 01-659 2144 NOWLombard
U.S. could
now be
sowing a
whirlwind

BY C. GORDON TETHER

THE U.S. was under no compulsion to settle this month or this year since it remained the world's largest market and would suffer less from trade reprisals than others, said Mr. Connally. President Nixon's vociferous economic mouthpiece over the week-end. It was the latest of the series of "we couldn't care less because we are almost immune" U.S. pronouncements on the international monetary crisis with which Washington has bombarded the rest of the world and which have now come to constitute the most worrying feature of the situation of all.

Nothing, after all, is so calculated to put up the bets of America's trading partners as behaviour on the part of the U.S. which is both bullying and irresponsible—a description that can fairly be applied to Mr. Connally's statement. It is complete disregard of the fact that any prolonged delay in settling the row could have devastating consequences for those many countries that have no say in the matter at all.

And what makes this more serious is that, by deciding ruthlessly to exploit the floating of international economic law and order for offensive purposes, the Americans have both invited other countries to retaliate and made it almost respectable for them to do so.

Rose-tinted

At the Press conference held at the close of the two-day meeting of OECD's Working Party 3 earlier this week, Dr. Emswiler, the chairman, asserted that the exchange rate adjustments needed to bring the U.S. balance of payments back into equilibrium would take place in a much better world economic climate than was generally supposed. He supported this optimistic prediction with OECD Secretariat forecasts.

The fact that growth has recently petered out in nearly all the leading countries in response to adverse forces that appear to be of much more than passing significance suggests that the crystal ball used for this operation must have been rose-tinted in any case. What would seem to be altogether undeniable is that there is next to no possibility of things turning out in this convenient way if the present struggle over exchange rates and the U.S. surcharge is allowed to drag on for any length of time.

Frightening

It is significant that the Japanese have already found it necessary drastically to revise their growth expectations for 1972 and that the picture that then emerged was as frightening as that they immediately announced a massive new pump-priming operation. Other countries have given similar expression to their feeling that the world economic climate is bound to deteriorate. And this has happened before there has been any reaction to speak of to the U.S. decision to hit at other countries' exports through its import surcharge.

Yet the danger of such counter-measures developing on a world-wide scale increases markedly with every day that passes. The French aerospace industry has now presented the EEC with a strong case for imposing a "matching tariff" on American aircraft exports to Europe. And though the decision of Denmark's new Government to slap a 10 per cent surcharge on all imports is not expressly intended to offset the American one, it seems highly probable that it was to some extent inspired by it.

Inspiration

As I said earlier, the way in which the U.S. has used the surcharge has not only invited retaliation. It has also made such kicking over the traces respectable, if not glamorous. Previously, it had always been accepted that disregard of the international rule-book of this kind was something of which a country should at least be a little ashamed. The Americans, however, are actually using the surcharge as a stick with which to beat the rest of the world. Given such a lead it is hardly to be wondered at that our Copenhagen correspondent should have reported that the Danish Government is well aware of the illegality of what it is doing but thinks that "it must put Denmark first".

The U.S. may feel that its economic geography is such that it need not be more than mildly inconvenienced by the whirlwind it has set blowing across the world. Yet those who sow the wind are apt to reap the whirlwind. And whirlwinds are a very different proposition.

THE LEX COLUMN

Spillers' remaining recovery scope

On Tuesday the Dow Jones index broke down through its 1971 upturn as calculated on an hourly arithmetic point and figure chart, but ended rallying. Yesterday it started lower—perhaps on the news of \$166m. of net redemptions for the mutual fund industry in September—and carried on alarmingly downward despite prime rate cut news. The mutual fund figures conflict with record lows in odd lot short sales ratios.

Spillers

Spillers' interim performance—£3.7m. pre-tax against £1.89m. and £3.15m. in the second half of 1970-71—is in line with most recent expectations, and the recovery areas were predictable enough too. Last year, the combination of higher raw material prices with trading down slammed petfoods into the red; this time, Spillers have scored with its own priced brands meat costs are down a little, along with the promotion bill, and the tinned foods side as a whole may make up roughly a

third of the half-time improvement. Flour milling, with stable costs and better prices, probably accounts for rather more than that, and most of the rest comes from animal feeds. The problem for the current half to January is the impact of the levy system on cereal costs. In fact, Spillers' home grown content overall is as high as 40 per cent, forward buying has provided a buffer at least until this month, and overall raw material costs need not be that much greater than last year's high levels.

The bread price question has switched from the political to the tactical, with ABF apparently hungry for market share and substantial wage claims in the air. Yet there was an improving trend in group profits through the first six months, there is further recovery from petfoods—where dog food sales seem to be picking up—interest charges should be lower ex the 15p, on a drop in the under-postal strike and a reasonable guess for the year may be £3.4m. before pensions, etc. of profits somewhere in the region of £7.5m. pre-tax. That would leave a prospective p/e of 14½

at 57½p, and the gamble there is to do with potential cost savings in the French bread merger, superimposed on the way ABF has been mooting much higher bread prices.

Eagle Star

The interim combination from Eagle Star—the decision to make a reserve transfer to unearned premium reserves, an extra allocation to claims reserves, and the forecast of a reduced though still "material" underwriting loss for the year—pushed the shares down to 44½p at one time before they rallied to 46½p, down 24p. In fact it has been clear for some time that the industry was not looking for a radical turnaround in U.K. motor results this year—the main recovery dynamo for ES—so the earnings estimates stay substantially where they were at say 20p a share against writing loss from £5.2m. to say £3.4m. before pensions, etc. The strength of ES still lies in its life income of perhaps £7.5m. pre-tax. That would leave a prospective p/e of 14½

investment income of maybe 25p. As for the underwriting recovery, ES was the laggard in raising motor rates: the employers liability problems are coming right.

The change in the unearned premium reserve treatment is a quite new departure: in essence it involves reserving for the unearned risk rather than the premium—allowing, in effect, for inflation-induced losses in the year of writing rather than later. The speculation whether ES is simply a much less profitable than average U.K. motor writer, or a more conservative account for a bit of both, is inconclusive: the evidence points rather to the former.

William Baird

William Baird's first half shows the usual pattern of ups and downs, but this time the emphasis is very much on recovery, with pre-tax profits improving from £475,000 to £592,000 before tax. This includes only one month's contribution from the J. H. Buckingham acquisition,

are very much better at £503,000 against £345,000 before central costs and interest, and the Sierra Leone iron ore mining operation has turned round sharply into the black, while mining services and the industrial division are both usefully higher. The odd one out this time is the investment side, where the £141,000 shortfall corresponds closely to the dividend passed on the big Joseph Dawson holding; and the danger is that it could shortly be joined in the dullard category by the iron ore mine, which sells about 40 per cent of its output on a long-term fixed-price Japanese contract but faces lower prices on the rest when annual contracts are renegotiated around the end of the year.

However, that problem will not be felt until 1972, and there is an offset in the buoyant performance by the textile side, which should maintain the up-trend. Here the strength lies in the garment operations, now widened in scope by Buckingham, and underpinned by Marks and Spencer which takes over half the output. This

Telephone Rentals

Telephone Rentals' first half growth rate—12 per cent to £2.59m. pre-tax—has not accelerated much considering that January-June, 1970, was apparently slowed by component supply problems. The corollary to that, however, is that the current slowdown in new business, given TR's high proportion of rental income, will not markedly affect earnings progress in the short term. This, of course, is scant support for a p/e of 21.5 on earnings of 15½p (before tax equalisation transfer) for the past reported 12 months; what should be is TR's early warning system which suggests new business should begin to pick up again in the first quarter of 1972.

Many U.S. banks cut
prime rates by ¼%

BY JUREK MARTIN

NEW YORK, Oct. 20.

RESPONDING to considerable pressure from the Nixon Administration, many of the major American banks, led by Morgan Guaranty Trust, of New York, today lowered their prime rates by a cautious ¼ of 1 per cent to 5½ per cent. This marks the first change in the prime rate—that charged to best corporate customers—since it was raised from 5½ to 6 per cent in early July.

The action, however, had only the most fleeting of effects on the Stock Market, which ended the day with one of its heaviest losses in recent months—the Dow Jones Industrial average was down nearly 4 points when the news of the prime rate cut was announced, rallied briefly to be up by a point or so, but, when the recovery fizzled out, Wall Street began to feed on its own weakness. The result was that the Dow ended the day off 12.78 at \$55.65—its lowest since August 13.

Analysts suggested that a failure to sustain a prime rate rally was the main cause behind the afternoon collapse, though they added that fundamental uncertainties concerning Phase Two of the new economic policies were responsible for the underlying weakness. Wall Street was also unhappy with the report that mutual fund redemptions had exceeded sales again last month.

A reduction in the prime rate has been freely talked about in financial circles for some time. Morgan Guaranty announced,

ment stated, the reduction reflected money market conditions, then a ½ per cent, not a ¼ per cent, as had been instituted to-day. Both could turn out to be counter-productive if the Administration should force them to hold to a lower prime rate at some time in the future when interest rates might be rising again.

Certainly, there has been enough private arm-twisting of the banks by Administration officials, determined to see that the new economic policies work, to make this fear much more real than at any time in the past. Although the Administration has so far eschewed controls on interest rates, the Federal Reserve has been collecting data from the banks on their interest charges, and the banks are genuinely afraid that in this new era of the controlled economy they are by no means outside the scope of Government intervention.

Equally, the economists at bank banks remain genuinely worried that Mr. Nixon's policies might not, in fact, end the existence of sizeable inflation in the U.S., especially if the Federal Reserve's monetary policies are so geared to expansion of the economy that, in the long run, they only refuel the mutual fund redemptions had exceeded sales again last month.

Thus today's cut in the prime rate was by the minimum possible amount. If, as the expectation that this will contribute to the creation of jobs.

Some indication of what the banking community feels a prime rate ought to be these days surfaced this week at a bankers' conference in San Francisco, where the major subject of debate has been whether the prime rate, as a concept, has outlived its usefulness. Speculating about the desirability of introducing a "floating" prime, a senior official of First National City Bank said that he would at the present stage peg the minimum lending rate at per cent above the prevailing rate on 90-day commercial paper—which would place the prime at 5½ per cent.

Canada also

● In Canada Toronto Dominion Bank cut its prime lending rate to 6½ per cent, from 6½ per cent, effective October 25. The bank says the move is intended to help stimulate loan demand in the expectation that this will contribute to the creation of jobs.

Government negotiating
on UCS guaranties

BY JAMES McDONALD, SHIPPING CORRESPONDENT

MR. JOHN DAVIES, Secretary of Trade and Industry, told the Commons yesterday that he would complete negotiations with the suspended customers of the bankrupt Upper Clyde Shipbuilders for the Government guaranties they used before replacing their orders.

The orders to be guaranteed initially involve five ships, it is understood. These are four ships on order for the Govan yard by Irish shipping and one bulk carrier of similar size, for Reardon Smith.

Mr. Davies added: "I will complete negotiations with the shipowners of the guaranties they need. The unions will enter into meaningful discussions with Govan Shipbuilders."

He added that the study of the Govan-Linthouse two yard project "will be extended to look at the alternative of the inclusion of Scotland."

I am ready to advance up to £1.5m. to the liquidator over and above the £4m. already advanced, of which £2.7m. is repayable," Mr. Davies expressed the hope that all those having the future of shipbuilding on the Upper Clyde at heart would work together to make a success of the new venture.

Mr. Davies told the House that ship orders being worked on by the UCS liquidator, Mr. Robert

Smith, were likely to realise a "heavy loss," as would the new work needed to maintain employment at Govan and Linthouse—on the basis of the new Govan Shipbuilders company. This was already "abundantly evident."

Mr. Davies said the Minister for Industry was negotiating with the shipowners on the guaranties they needed to enable them to complete their orders with Govan Shipbuilders.

The financial commitments already agreed were substantial. A further statement would be made when the remaining negotiations had been completed, said Mr. Davies.

Estimates would be presented to the Commons to which would be added "the considerable further public funds needed for investment in Govan Shipbuilders Limited in addition to its private funds so long as the company can put before me a fully-appraised proposal for a concern capable of attaining a longer-term, more satisfactory course of evidence of satisfactory agreements reached with the unions."

Mr. Davies circulated with his statement details of financial commitments and liabilities undertaken since June 14, in respect of four ships now being built with the aid of a bank loan guaranteed by the Government

under Section 7 of the Shipbuilding Industry Act, 1971, an undertaking had been given that if the ships were not delivered by certain dates the Trade and Industry Department would relinquish its right to recover from the shipowners any payments called upon under the guarantee.

The statement adds that a guarantee similar to those under Section 7 of the Act had been given to another shipowner in respect of one ship. A guarantee offered in February, 1971, had not been completed at the time of liquidation.

A welcome
Andrew Hargrave writes: Mr. Davies' announcement was welcomed last night by UCS shop stewards, said that the release of these guaranties as well as the completion of the feasibility study which included the Scotoun yard would "create an atmosphere in which meaningful negotiations could proceed."

He added, however, that a successful outcome of talks between the Government and Govan Shipbuilders on the one hand and the trade unions on the other still depended on the initiative taken in respect of the Clyde yard.

Parliament Page 8

New names
soon for
CIR

By John Elliott

THE Government is to announce within the next day or two several new appointments to the Board of the Commission of Industrial Relations including an industrial dispute through the collapse of V & G was told yesterday.

The denial was made in a letter from Mr. Cyril Russell, of Charles Russell and Co., solicitors for Mr. Follows. It referred to allegations made by Mr. Hunt at the tribunal's hearing on October 11.

On that date Mr. Hunt had told the tribunal that Mr. Follows had arranged reinsurance for V & G in the early 1960s, had managed to get considerable political influence and had obtained information on V & G from the Board of Trade.

Mr. Hunt also alleged that Mr. Follows was in a position for the national Press, particularly the Times, to publish information. This, he said, had given the British Insurance Association the opportunity to put in a firm of accountants to investigate V & G.

Mr. Hunt told the tribunal that Mr. Follows had the matter put to the Fraud Squad, suggesting that V & G had done something incorrect, and had managed to get the City Police to do an investigation.

The letter of denial from the solicitor was read to the tribunal yesterday by Mr. John Arnold, QC, counsel for the tribunal.

It stated, "You know that Mr. John Follows has sought my advice in regard to his position vis à vis the Vehicle and General Insurance Company in the course of which his name has cropped up from time to time."

"He appreciates that his connection with the Vehicle and General Insurance Company is not a matter of any great interest to the tribunal having regard to their terms of reference."

"Nevertheless he is concerned at his position following the evidence given by Mr. Hunt which

V & G Inquiry
allegations denied

received wide coverage in the Financial Times and the Daily Telegraph of October 12.

"It is in particular the allegation made by Mr. Hunt that he (Mr. Follows) with intent to injure the Vehicle and General Insurance Company, had approached both the Fraud Squad and the Department of Trade and Industry in regard to certain aspects of that company's affairs."

"These allegations, which Mr. Follows assures me are wholly without foundation, are the subject of much comment and some credence in the City, where Mr. Follows works and where his reputation is of course, all-important to him."

Before reading the letter, Mr. Arnold told the tribunal: "You will remember that in the course of the evidence of Mr. Hunt, a matter concerning Mr. Follows arose, in that it was definitely Mr. Hunt's conviction that matters concerning the company had been the subject of representations by Mr. Follows to the police and/or the DTI."

"The difficulty was that this was not a matter which came within the tribunal's terms of reference and therefore there was no reasonable likelihood of granting an application by Mr. Follows to be heard as a witness."

After the letter was read, Mr. Justice James, chairman of the tribunal, said: "That which Mr. Hunt said in relation to Mr. Follows' activities in my view was very, very peripheral to our inquiry."

"We say publicly and in order to avoid troubling Mr. Follows with the evidence, that we accept his denial of Mr. Hunt's evidence in this sense, that his denial is now in evidence before us to be evaluated."

"I feel sure that the Press, in the sense of fair play they always have, will consider giving equal publicity to that denial as they have to the evidence of Mr. Hunt."

Tribunal report, Page 19

Airlines seek
stake in
THF travel

By Arthur Sandles

BOAC and BEA are negotiating with Trust Houses Forte for the purchase of a sizeable equity slice in the THF travel interests. The airlines will almost certainly end up with holdings in Hickie Borman and Milbank Travel (Flair), both of which were Forte companies.

The THF travel companies are highly important users of BEA Airtours, the charter subsidiary of the airline. The Forte side of THF has also built up a long-standing relationship with BOAC in hotel operation with the Pegasus hotels in such countries as Guyana, Jamaica, Hong Kong and Ceylon.

By the deal the airlines would secure charter contracts in a highly competitive package tour business. Although Hickie Borman and Milbank, with less than 2 per cent of the U.K. package tour business between them, are smallish companies their recent reorganisation has made them viable.

As tour operators begin to look further afield BOAC is keen to enter the group holiday business more effectively. It has recently been chartering Jumbo jets for package tour work and would doubtless wish to encourage Hickie Borman and Milbank into long-haul holiday business.

The advantages for THF would be a vastly increased marketing area via the offices of the airlines and the hope that the travel companies could become more deeply involved in ground arrangements within the U.K. for incoming tourists. These travellers would, hopefully, be sent to THF hotels.

The empty bed debate, page 22

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Weather

U.K. TO-DAY

Most parts will have a cloudy day with periods of rain or drizzle and hill fog patches. A few bright periods are likely, however, in the parts of England, and here and there in other parts of England and Wales.

Brighter though, showers will reach W. Scotland and N. Ireland later in the day. London S.E. and Cent. S. Eng. E. Anglia; E. Midlands.

Rain or drizzle at times, hill fog patches, perhaps a few bright intervals. Wind W. to S.W., fresh to strong. Max. 14C (57F). Cent. N. and N.E. Eng. Borders; E. Scot.

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